THE RISE OF METHODISM IN THE WEST

WILLIAM WARREN SWEET

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THE RISE OF METHODISM IN THE WEST

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THE JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN CONFERENCE 1800-1811

Methodist Episcopal church. Conferences, Western.

EDITED, WITH NOTES AND INTRODUCTION, BY

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TO THE MEMORY
OF MY FATHER AND MOTHER

PREFACE.

THE manuscript Journal of the old Western Conference is the property of the Ohio Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has, for the past number of years, been deposited in the Library of Ohio Wesleyan University. The Journal of the Western Conference covers ninety-seven pages of the manuscript volume, while the latter part of the volume is given over to the Journals of the Ohio Conference from 1812 to 1826, inclusive. None of these Journals have before been published. Unfortunately Methodism has not been careful of her historical documents, and it is hoped that the appearance of this document may encourage the publication of others.

In many respects the Journal of the Western Conference is the most important historical document relating to the establishment of Methodism in the Mississippi Valley. The heart of Methodism lies in the Mississippi Valley; there live the bulk of her membership, there she has performed her greatest achievements, and there perhaps lies her most brilliant future. For these reasons, if for no others, the materials in this volume deserve publication.

Outside of the Editor, two others have shown particular interest in this book, and to them especial thanks are due. The first is Rev. Dr. W. E. Arnold, of Fort Thomas, Ky.; the second is Mr. George H. Maxwell, of Boston, whose interest in Methodist history is quite largely responsible for this publication.

GREENCASTLE, IND., October 2, 1919.

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PART I.
INTRODUCTION.

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CHAPTER I.

THE COMING OF THE CIRCUIT RIDER OVER THE MOUNTAINS.

1782-1800.

THE Methodist Episcopal Church dates from the Christmas Conference which met in Baltimore on December 27, 1784.[1] The American Revolution had closed and the Treaty of Paris had just been signed. John Wesley, although a consistent supporter of the British during the American war and an opponent of the rebelling colonists,[2] yet when the war was over was wise enough to see that it would be best for all concerned to separate the American societies from the English Conference, and accordingly sent over to America, toward the end of 1784, Dr. Thomas Coke and two other English preachers to supervise the organization of the new American Church. The events of the Christmas Conference are familiar to all Methodists. Francis Asbury, the only English Methodist preacher who had remained in America throughout the Revolution, was named by Mr. Wesley as General Superintendent for the American Church. Asbury, however, refused to accept the place solely on Mr. Wesley's appointment, but only after election by the preachers.

At the time of the organization of the Methodist Epis-

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[1]Jesse Lee, "A Short History of the Methodists in the United States of America; Beginning in 1766, and Continued Till 1809" (Baltimore, 1810), pages 69, 70, 91-93. Wesley's letter setting forth his plan for the organization of the Church in America will be found in "Minutes of the Annual Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church for the Years 1773-1828" (New York, 1840), page 21.

[2]For John Wesley's attitude toward the American Revolution, see John Wesley's "Journal," Vol. VI.; reviewed in *American Historical Review*, Vol. XXI., pages 346-348.

copal Church there were not more than 14,000 Methodists in America. The largest proportion of the membership was in the Southern States. Between 1777 and 1783 there was but one appointment north of some parts of New Jersey, while during the Revolution practically every preacher received into the ministry by the Methodists was from the South.[3] Methodism as yet had made no progress in New England, though in New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey it had gained a foothold and there were flourishing societies especially in Philadelphia and New York.

After the close of the French and Indian War, in 1763, a few backwoodsmen, especially from Virginia and the Carolinas, began to find their way over the mountains into what is now Kentucky and Tennessee. First came the hunters, Daniel Boone and his kind, to be followed by Sevier and Robertson and their kind. By the outbreak of the Revolution a number of English settlements had sprung up on the Tennessee and the Cumberland, as well as in Western Virginia and the Carolinas. These frontiersmen took part in the War for Independence under George Rogers Clark, while their settlements, under the stress of Indian wars and dangers from frontier conditions, were largely self-governing and self-sustaining. Altogether it was a rude and shifting population, made up largely of game hunters and Indian fighters who had settled this Western region. Many of them never took permanent root in the region, but moved on westward, farther into the wilderness, and the descendants of those who fought under Clark at Vincennes or at King's Mountain "are as likely to be found in the Rockies as in the Alleghenies."

With the close of the Revolution the tide of westward

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[3]DeVinne, "The Methodist Episcopal Church and Slavery," pages 11-13; also "Minutes of Conferences," Vol. I., for the years indicated.

immigration greatly increased. At first they came mostly into Kentucky, and those who now came were of a different character from the pre-Revolutionary pioneers. These came to find homes, and were often representative of the gentry of the seaboard. The long war had left them in straitened circumstances, and now they were looking toward this new and fertile country as a means of more easily staying their impending ruin. Such was the composition of the immigrants who within a dozen years following the close of the Revolution completely swamped the original settlers.[4] The pre-Revolutionary pioneers had been slow to establish cultural institutions, such as schools and churches; but the new settlers brought with them their institutions, their educational and religious ideals, and it was not long after their coming until churches and schools began to spring up in the wilderness.

Both the organization and doctrine of the Methodists were well suited to the frontier. The circuit system which John Wesley devised and put into operation in England was brought to America by Asbury. When Asbury came to America he was urged to settle down in the centers of population; but he was so thoroughly saturated with Wesley's plan of organization that he would listen to no other.[5] So Asbury himself became an itinerant preacher, as all the Methodist preachers in America in that early day. The circuit system meant that a preacher served not one community, but a whole group of communities. These circuits varied in size. In the newer countries, where settlements were much scattered and far between, they covered many square miles of territory, and the preacher occupied from four to six weeks in making the rounds of the circuit. Nor was he particular where he conducted

[4]Theodore Roosevelt, "The Winning of the West," Vol. III., pages 63-71.

[5]Ezra Squire Tipple, "Francis Asbury, the Prophet of the Long Road" (New York, 1916), page 158.

his services; a log cabin, or the barroom of a tavern, or out under the trees—all were alike to him. He preached whenever and wherever he found any one to listen, with little regard to either time or place. Moreover, the system of lay or local preachers was one which lent itself easily to the spread of Methodism in a new country. A young man who showed any ability in public speaking was urged by the class leader and the circuit preacher to exercise his gift on every possible occasion, and when the presiding elder came around to hold the "quarterly meeting conference" the young man was recommended for an "exhorter's" or "local preacher's" license.[6] He did not often travel a circuit, but he preached in his own and neighboring communities, and in many instances was instrumental in organizing new classes in frontier settlements before the regular circuit rider or presiding elder arrived upon the scene. Indeed, the first Methodist classes organized west of the mountains represented the work of these lay preachers. They were generally men of little learning, but full of earnestness and enthusiasm, and their preaching was marvelously effective.

The Methodist itinerant also preached a doctrine which made a great appeal to the frontiersman. He preached a gospel of free grace, free will, and individual responsibility. He brought home to the pioneers that they were the masters of their own destiny, as opposed to the Presbyterian and Baptist doctrine of predestination and foreordination. Methodist theology thus fitted in exactly with the new democracy rising in the West, for both emphasized actual equality among all men. On one occasion when Peter Cartwright was attending a Conference in Nashville he was chosen to preach a sermon in one of the local churches. While he was preaching General Jackson

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[6]David Sherman, "History of the Discipline" (New York, 1890), pages 202-207, for regulations relative to local preachers.

came in, whereupon one of the preachers seated behind him pulled Cartwright's coat and whispered, "General Jackson has come in." Cartwright states that he felt a wave of indignation sweep over him, then he replied in an audible voice: "Who is General Jackson? If he don't get his soul converted, God will damn him as quick as he would a Guinea negro!"[7] This was certainly Jacksonian democracy, and typifies the attitude of the average Methodist itinerant on the frontier.

Included among the immigrants coming out from Virginia, North Carolina, and the other seaboard States were numerous local preachers of the Methodist Church. No sooner were they settled and their log cabins built than they began to gather the Methodist families together and organize them into classes.[8] Two such local preachers were Francis Clark and John Durham, both from Virginia, who settled in Mercer County, Kentucky, in 1783. By the next year numbers of other local preachers had come into the State and were at work organizing Methodist classes.

The General Minutes for 1782 record the sending of a regular circuit preacher to the Yadkin country, and the next year both Yadkin and Holston are listed among the circuits, while in 1784 the Redstone Circuit, in the southwest corner of Pennsylvania, is added to the number. Two years later (1786) the Yadkin Circuit reported 426 white members and 11 colored, the Holston 250 white members, and the Redstone 523.[9] In this same year the Kentucky Circuit appears, with James Haw as elder and Benjamin Ogden as circuit preacher. Methodist families had evidently come into Kentucky in considerable numbers, especially from Maryland and Virginia, for at the

[7]"Autobiography of Peter Cartwright, the Backwoods Preacher" (New York, 1856), page 192.

[8]Albion H. Redford, "History of Methodism in Kentucky" (Nashville, 1868), Vol. I., page 26.

[9]"Minutes of Conferences," Vol. I., page 26.

end of the first year 90 members are reported from this new circuit.[10]

As population in Kentucky, Tennessee, and along the Ohio increased, the number of circuits and circuit preachers likewise grew. The year 1786 was one of revival in these far western circuits, and among the converts was Peter Massie, the first convert in Kentucky to become a circuit rider. The Minutes for 1789 record the following circuits for this new country:[11] In Tennessee were the Holston, West New River, Greenbrier, and Botetourt; in Kentucky were Lexington, Danville, and Cumberland; while along the Upper Ohio were the Redstone, Pittsburgh, and Ohio Circuits. The Yadkin Circuit lay in Western North Carolina and the Holston in Western Virginia. In 1797 the membership in the Kentucky circuits was 1,740 whites and 57 colored, and in Tennessee 534 whites and 42 colored.[12]

With the close of the Indian wars and the signing of the treaty of Greenville in 1794, the southern half of Ohio and a narrow strip in what is now Southeastern Indiana were opened up to settlement. Settlers from Kentucky and Tennessee, as well as from the older States, began to move into these new grants. Many of them were members of Methodist classes in the States from which they had come, and so numerously did they come into the new country that there was an actual decrease of membership in the Kentucky and Tennessee circuits from 1797 to 1801. Of these years one of the pioneer preachers writes: "The Indian war having terminated, the people began to scatter in every direction. New settlements were formed, Ohio and Indiana began to settle rapidly; and the societies, many of them, were broken up, and we had not preachers

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[10]Redford, "Methodism in Kentucky," Vol. I., pages 27-32.

[11]*Ibid.*, page 102.

[12]"Minutes of Conferences," Vol. I., page 74.

sufficient to follow the tide of emigration to their new settlements."[13]

The first circuit to be formed in Ohio was organized in 1798 by John Kobler, who had been appointed presiding elder of the Kentucky District. He crossed the Ohio and preached in the home of one of these Kentucky Methodists who had migrated to the north side of the river. The Miami Circuit, as the new circuit was called, ran from the Ohio up the Little Miami and Mad Rivers to where Dayton now stands, thence down the Big Miami to Cincinnati. The second Ohio Circuit was the Scioto, organized in 1800 and included settlements on both sides of that river.[14] The first Governor of Ohio, Edward Tiffin, was a Methodist local preacher, ordained by Bishop Asbury in 1792. He had come from Virginia to Chillicothe in 1796, and in 1799 was elected territorial representative; and when Ohio became a State, in 1803, he was chosen the first Governor. His home was always open to Methodist preaching, and likewise served as the stopping place of many a weary itinerant.[15]

While the Methodist circuit riders were finding their way into the Ohio Valley and founding circuits along the banks of its tributaries, other preachers, equally zealous, were penetrating into the great Southwest. Tobias Gib-

[13]"Autobiography of Rev. William Burke," in James B. Finley's "Sketches of Western Methodism" (Cincinnati, 1854), page 73. In 1797 there were 1,740 white and 57 colored members reported for Kentucky, while in 1799 the membership had decreased to 1,672 white, though there was a gain of eight colored members. The Tennessee membership for these years showed little change, though it was less in 1799 than in 1797 by nearly a hundred. ("Minutes of Conferences," Vol. I., pages 74, 86.)

[14]John M. Barker, "History of Ohio Methodism" (New York, 1898), pages 88, 92. Also Redford, "Methodism in Kentucky," Vol. I., page 227.

[15]A sketch of Governor Tiffin may be found in Finley's "Sketches of Western Methodism," pages 260-287.

son was appointed Missionary to the Southwest in 1798. Starting from the Cumberland settlements, he traveled on horseback some four or five hundred miles; then, trading his horse for a canoe, he paddled to all the Southwest settlements, preaching wherever he found hearers, finally making his way back to the Conferences in Northern Tennessee in 1802.[16] This vast circuit received the name of Natchez and in 1799 reported 60 members.

The administration of the Church in this vast new territory was under the management of Bishop Francis Asbury and the presiding elders whom he appointed. Nor was he an absentee supervisor, directing the work from a comfortable seat east of the mountains. Between 1788 and 1800 at least eighteen Conferences were held west of the mountains.[17] The first of these was in May, 1788, at a place in East Tennessee called Half-Acres. Masterson's Station, in North-Central Kentucky, was a favorite place to hold Conference during these early years, for here the preachers met in 1790, 1791, 1792, 1793, 1795, and 1796; in 1794 a Conference met at Lewis's Chapel, near Masterson's Station, while at Bethel Academy, in Kentucky, Conferences were held in 1797, 1799, and 1800.

Bishop Asbury was in attendance upon a number of these far Western Conferences, and as the earlier ones were held during the progress of the Indian wars, several times the bishop was escorted over the mountains by a guard of the Western preachers armed for the purpose. The first Conference to be held west of the mountains was conducted by Bishop Asbury in East Tennessee, at a place called Half-Acres.[18] Asbury states in his Journal that the Conference sat three days and he preached each day. The

[16]John F. Hurst, "History of Methodism" (New York, 1904), Vol. IV., pages 572, 573.

[17]"Minutes of Conferences," Vol. I., pages 29-89.

[18]Francis Asbury, "Journal" (New York, 1821), Vol. II., page 32.

Bishop came into Tennessee by way of Virginia, and followed the valley of the Holston to the seat of the Conference. He found the people in disorder over "the new and old State." At this time the people of Eastern Tennessee were in rebellion against North Carolina. North Carolina had ceded her western lands to the United States in 1784, but to the manner of this cession the Watauga settlements objected. Previous to this North Carolina had neglected the western settlements within her territory, and had left them without government; and now, when she proceeded to cede them to the United States, the people of the western settlements objected, and proceeded to organize a State of their own, calling it the State of Franklin. On this action by the people of the new settlements, North Carolina rescinded her cession and proceeded to subdue the rebellious westerners. The State of Franklin ceased to exist in February, 1788, though conflicts between the old and new State parties continued until the autumn of that year, when Sevier, the Governor of the new State, was arrested and imprisoned on the charge of treason.

In 1790 Bishop Asbury was once more in Tennessee, having crossed over from North Carolina. He speaks in his Journal of swimming the horses across the Watauga and of dangers from the Indians. He found the "poor preachers indifferently clad, with emaciated bodies." In May of this same year, after returning to the East, he crossed again from Virginia to Kentucky, accompanied to the foot of the mountains by two Kentucky preachers, Peter Massie and John Clark. Later their company was joined by eight others, and their number finally reached sixteen men and thirteen guns. Passing into Kentucky, they crossed the Kentucky River, going "over mountains, steep hills, deep rivers, and muddy creeks, and thick growth of reeds for miles together." He saw the graves of the slain, twenty-four in one camp. He held conference at Masterson's, "a very comfortable house and kind people." Here plans were laid for the establishment of Bethel

Academy, which was the first Methodist institution of learning West of the mountains, and $300 was obtained in subscriptions. On his trip to Kentucky in 1792 the Bishop heard "so much about Indians, Convention, Treaty, killing, and scalping,"[19] that his attention was drawn away from the affairs of the infant Church in the wilderness; and after much alarm concerning depredations committed by the Indians, he finally returned to Virginia with a company of "thirty-six good travelers, and a few warriors." Eighteen such trips over the mountains were made by Bishop Asbury between 1788 and the time of his death, 1816.

In 1792 the first serious schism in the Methodist Episcopal Church took place, headed by James O'Kelly, a prominent preacher East of the mountains, who objected to Asbury's supreme appointing power.[20] Those who withdrew with O'Kelly called themselves Republican Methodists, and a number of adherents were won in Kentucky and Tennessee. Most of them, however, finally united with the sect known as the New Lights; and the Republican Methodists, as a separate organization, went out of existence, in spite of the fact that the name Republican was popular in the West. Most of the Methodists in the Western country were Jeffersonian Democrats in their politics, as were also many of the Methodists in other States.[21]

Beginning in 1797, a great revival swept over the Western country, which profoundly stirred whole communities and affected every Protestant sect. It began in Kentucky, on the Cumberland, under the influence of a Presbyterian

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[19] *Ibid.*, Vol. II., pages 74, 126, 137.

[20] Lee, "History of the Methodists," pages 178-180; Nathan Bangs, "History of the Methodist Episcopal Church" (New York, 1839), Vol. I., pages 351-356; Cartwright, "Autobiography," pages 32, 33.

[21] Alfred Brunson, "Western Pioneer" (Cincinnati, 1872), Vol. I., pages 38-43. This gives an interesting account of the relation of the Methodists and Jeffersonian Democrats in Connecticut.

minister, James McGready. It was under the influence of these meetings that the camp meeting originated, which became thereafter a Methodist institution that was employed with great effectiveness on the frontier, though the Methodists did not themselves originate it. The revival continued for eight years, and through its influence the membership in the Western circuits was more than doubled and the number of local and traveling preachers was greatly increased.[22] Indeed, it was largely through the influence of this revival that preaching was begun north of the Ohio in what is now Ohio and Indiana.

During these early years the Western circuits and districts were more or less indefinite in their boundaries and their organization loose. From year to year they underwent considerable change, both as to boundaries and names, and the Conferences were irregularly held. The Conference held in the West in 1788 was called the Holston, while the two Conferences held in 1790 were known as the Holston and the Kentucky. In 1791, besides the two Conferences already noted, a third, called the Greenbrier, was held. The Western Conferences of 1793 are the Nashville, Kentucky, Greenbrier, and New Territory; while in 1794, besides the New Territory and Kentucky Conferences, one is held at Mitchell's. After 1795 the Western Conference is generally called either the Holston or the Kentucky Conference.[23]

By 1800, the year of the organization of the Western Conference, there were 2,307 white members in Kentucky and Tennessee and 177 colored. Of this number, 1,626 white members were in Kentucky and 681 were in Tennessee, while of the colored members 115 were in Kentucky and 62 in Tennessee. In the Northwest Territory there were three circuits, the Miami, the Scioto, and the

[22]Catherine C. Cleveland, "Great Revival in the West," 1797-1805" (Chicago, 1916), Chapters 2, 3. Also Redford, "Methodism in Kentucky."

[23]"Minutes of Conferences," Vol. I.

Muskingum and Hockhocking, with a white membership of 364 and 2 colored; while along the Mississippi to the south of Tennessee was the Natchez Circuit, which reported in that year 81 white members.

In the years following the Revolutionary War, 1783 to 1800, the Methodist Church had successfully followed the immigrants across the mountains to their new homes in the West. Indeed, no other Church was so well suited to minister to the wants of these immigrants. "It alone was so organized as to be able to follow step by step this movable population, and to carry the gospel even to the most distant cabin. It alone could be present whenever a grave was opened, or an infant was found in its cradle."[24] The other sects moved westward toward the Mississippi as fast as any number of their adherents formed part of the emigration thither, but Methodism alone exercised a weighty influence upon the mixed crowd. And it is from this class, the great unchurched crowd, that the Methodist Church in the West was to draw the largest proportion of its membership.

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[24]From an article first printed in the *Revue des deux mondes*, by M. Cucheval-Clavigny; translated and reprinted under the title, "Peter Cartwright and Preaching in the West," *Methodist Review*, Vol. LIV., pages 556, 577, Vol. LV., pages 69-88.

CHAPTER II.

THE WESTERN CONFERENCE.

1800-1811.

This chapter is to deal with the progress of the Methodist Church in the West during the first twelve years of the nineteenth century, which is the period covered by the life of the Western Conference. The name "Western Conference" did not come into use until toward the close of the eighteenth century, and the General Minutes continue to designate the Western circuits as the Kentucky District as late as 1800. By the beginning of the new century Methodist circuits had been established in Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, and along the Mississippi in what is now the State of Mississippi. These circuits were included in one district, presided over by William McKendree. McKendree was a Virginian and had begun to preach in his native State in 1788. For twelve years he traveled circuits east of the mountains; but in 1800 Bishops Asbury and Whatcoat, passing through Virginia on their way to the West, took McKendree along with them, and at the Conference of 1800 he was made presiding elder of all the Western circuits.[1] No better choice could have been made for a frontier presiding elder, and for eight successive years he is the major general of the frontier Church.

By the next year, 1801, the number of Western circuits had increased from 9 to 13 and a new district, the Holston, was formed, with John Watson as presiding elder. In 1802 there are seventeen circuits and three districts, the third district being the Cumberland. In 1804 a fourth district was added, which was formed of the Ohio circuits,

[1] W. C. Larrabee, "Asbury and His Colaborers," Vol. II., pages 214-217.

now grown to five.[2] It was in this year also that Benjamin Young was sent as a missionary to Illinois. It may have been that Benjamin Young was sent upon this mission as a matter of discipline, for he is charged in the Conference of that year, "of having said that he composed a certain song, when in truth he did not; that he had the misfortain to fet his horse's thye broke, when it was not so; and that he baptized contrary to the order of the M. E. Church." He was admitted into the Conference and ordained elder only "after a plain talke, and hopeful promises."[3] Whatever may have been the reason for sending Benjamin Young as a missionary to Illinois, the fact remains that, in spite of many difficulties, he succeeded in forming five classes among the Illinois settlements and at the end of the year reported sixty-seven members. He was received very coldly, however, among the Kaskaskia settlements, and at Kaskaskia was compelled to pay high rent for the hall in which he preached; and to increase his difficulties, the Kickapoo Indians made away with his horse.[4]

Previous, however, to the coming of Benjamin Young to Illinois, Methodism had been introduced into the country by Methodist laymen. Capt. Joseph Ogle seems to have been the first Methodist in the State, having come to the Illinois country in 1785. In 1793 Joseph Lillard, a local preacher, visited Illinois and gathered a few scattered Methodists into a class and appointed Ogle class

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[2]General Minutes, Vol. I.

[3]MS. Journal of the Western Annual Conference, 1803. At the Conference of 1804 Benjamin Young was expelled from the Church. William McKendree, who presided at that Conference in the absence of Bishop Asbury, was responsible for the expulsion. It is probable that Young's misconduct was more in the nature of imprudences rather than immoral conduct. (Leaton, "Methodism in Illinois," page 35.)

[4]James Leaton, "History of Methodism in Illinois from 1793-1832" (Cincinnati, 1883), pages 34-37.

leader. Five years later John Clarke, who had been a traveling preacher in South Carolina, visited Illinois and crossed over into Missouri and was very probably the first Protestant minister to preach West of the Mississippi. The same year that Clarke visited Illinois, a local preacher, named Hosea Rigg, from Western Pennsylvania, settled in St. Clair County, Illinois, reorganized the class formerly led by Ogle, and also established a second class in what is now Madison County.[5]

While Benjamin Young was at work in the Illinois country among the scattered settlements along the Mississippi, circuit riders from Kentucky and Ohio were finding their way into Indiana. By the year 1800 the white population in what is now Indiana was nearly 3,000. Vincennes, the old French settlement, and vicinity had 1,538, while Clark's Grant, a tract of land granted to George Rogers Clark by Congress, and situated on the north bank of the Ohio, contained 919.[6] Most of the English settlers had come from Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, and North Carolina. Some of them had been Methodists in the older States, though there were Baptists, Presbyterians, and Quakers among them.[7] The first reliable record of Methodist preaching in Indiana was in 1801, at a settlement located in Clark's Grant. Two local preachers, Samuel Parker and Edward Talbott, crossed the Ohio and conducted a two days' meeting in the new territory.[8] It was William McKendree, the presiding elder, however, who established the first official Methodist class in Indiana. In the summer of 1802 he was taken across the Ohio in a canoe and two classes were formed, one at Charlestown,

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[5] *Ibid.*, pages 27-33.

[6] Logan Esarey, "History of Indiana," Vol. I., pages 123, 124, 127.

[7] W. C. Smith, "Indiana Miscellany," page 43.

[8] F. C. Holliday, "Indiana Methodism," page 37.

the present county seat of Clark County, and the other near by at a place then called New Chapple.[9]

Following these earliest classes came Benjamin Lakin in 1803, then traveling the Salt River Circuit in Kentucky, and he added the two new Indiana classes to his Kentucky circuit. At the session of the Western Conference in 1805 Peter Cartwright, who had been admitted into the Conference in 1804, was appointed junior preacher on the Salt River and Shelby Circuit. In his autobiography he states: "Brother Benjamin Lakin and myself crossed the Ohio River and preached at Brother Robertson's and Prather's. In this grant we had two classes and splendid revivals of religion."[10]

Into the narrow strip of territory, in the southeast corner of the present State of Indiana, which had been opened up to settlement by the treaty of Greenville (1794) following General Wayne's campaign against the Indians, had come by 1805 a considerable population. The valley of the Whitewater River was particularly well settled. Here in 1805 were two settlements, one a little south of the present city of Richmond, called the Kentucky settlement, because most of the families had come from Kentucky; the other, above the present town of Brookville, was called the Carolina settlement, because most of the families had come from South Carolina. In the latter settlement were several Methodist families, and these drew up a petition to John Sale, then the presiding elder of the Ohio District, asking that a regular traveling preacher be sent them. In response to this petition, in March, 1806, John Sale sent Joseph Oglesby to form a new circuit west of the Great Miami.

Fortunately we have from Oglesby himself a description

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[9]W. W. Sweet, "Circuit Rider Days in Indiana" (Indianapolis, 1916), page 4.

[10]Peter Cartwright, "Autobiography," page 167.

of the formation of this new circuit,[11] which became known as the Whitewater. The circuit began at the present town of Hamilton, Ohio, and at the cabin of Moses Crume the first sermon was preached. The next stop was the cabin of a family by the name of Gray. After opening several preaching places in Western Ohio, the young circuit rider struck General Wayne's old road from Hamilton to Fort Wayne, which, he says, "seemed still fresh and plain." From this road he came upon an Indian trail which led him into Indiana, and finally to the Kentucky settlement on the Whitewater. Here he preached at the cabin of a Mr. Cox and formed a class. The society was small, because most of the people of this settlement were Baptists. Turning southward and following the Whitewater, he established other preaching places along that stream, finally arriving at Lawrenceburg, the county town of Dearborn County, which had been founded in 1802. From Lawrenceburg he started up the Miami, preaching at cabins on both sides of the river until he arrived at the place of beginning. This route was traveled by Oglesby every four weeks until the next meeting of the Western Conference, in September, 1806.

Following Oglesby on the Whitewater Circuit came Thomas Hellums and Sela Paine as circuit preachers. Hellums has been described as "a grave, zealous, affectionate, and weeping preacher," his countenance always most solemn and his subjects of discourse usually of a grave and pathetic cast, while the intonations of his voice were as solemn as death, and usually large tears dropped from his face most of the time while he was preaching.[12] By the close of the year 1808 the number of preaching places on

[11]Allen Wiley, "Introduction and Progress of Methodism in Southeast Indiana" (a series of thirty-seven articles in the *Western Christian Advocate*, 1845-46), August 15, 1845.

[12]Allen Wiley, article in the *Western Christian Advocate*, October 17, 1845.

the new circuit had grown to twenty and the membership had reached 166.

In 1808 a second Indiana circuit, the Silver Creek, was organized, which included the territory of Clark's Grant, formerly in the Salt River Circuit, of the Kentucky District. The circuit preacher was Moses Ashworth, a young man of twenty-four. This was the first complete circuit in Indiana. The next year a new district was formed which included the two Indiana circuits, the Illinois and Missouri circuits, besides two Kentucky circuits, and received the name Indiana District. By the next year the Indiana circuits had grown to three, with the addition of the Vincennes Circuit.[13] One of the first services conducted by the circuit preacher, William Winans, in the old French town was held in the fort, on the Wabash. The congregation was made up of a few government officials, a few English-speaking settlers, two or three Indians, and the Governor of the Territory, William Henry Harrison. There were only a few tallow candles to furnish light for the service, and one of these was held by the Governor to enable the young preacher to read his text and line out the hymn.[14] General Harrison was always a firm friend of the Methodist circuit rider, although he was a communicant of the Presbyterian Church. By 1811 there were five circuits in Indiana, a fourth having been added in 1810, made up of the southern half of the Whitewater Circuit. At first this circuit was known as the Enon, a scriptural name meaning abundance of waters, for the circuit preacher in making the rounds of the circuit was compelled to cross many creeks.[15] Later the circuit became the Lawrenceburg. In 1811 the fifth In-

[13] *Ibid.*, November 28, 1845.

[14] Holliday, "Indiana Methodism," pages 28, 29.

[15] *Western Christian Advocate*, December 19, 1845.

diana circuit appeared, called the Patoka, which included the settlements along the Patoka River.[16]

The year 1811 was an important date in the history of early Indiana. It was in the fall of this year that General Harrison won the battle of Tippecanoe, which opened up much new territory to settlement, and it was also the year of the great earthquake. Quakes of the most alarming character continued through the winter of 1811 and 1812. The effects of these shocks upon Indiana Methodism and religion in general is thus described by an eyewitness:[17]

> As a result of the continued quakes the whole country became alarmed and the most vile and hardened sinners began to tremble and quake, and to go to meeting, and weep and pray. Now every preacher, traveling and local, with the exhorters, began to hold meetings with more earnestness than ever in almost all directions, and Baptist ministers did the same, and it seemed as if almost everybody would become religious that winter and spring.

The result of the earthquake is clearly indicated by the minutes. The Whitewater Circuit increased from 567 to 843; the Lawrenceburg from 306 to 480; the Silver Creek from 375 to 555; while the Vincennes Circuit was divided, probably as a result of the great ingathering. This large growth, however, was not lasting, and the next year there was a reaction, resulting in the loss of zeal and members.

We have already noted in the previous chapter the organization of the first Ohio circuit, along the banks of the Miami and the Scioto. So rapidly did population increase in the new territory in the early years of the nineteenth century that by 1803 Ohio was admitted as a State into the American union, and the same year the Ohio District was organized, made up of five circuits, two of which were in Western Virginia. The presiding elder of the new district was the Secretary of the Western Conference, William Burke. It took the presiding elder about eleven

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[16] General Minutes, Vol. I., page 211.

[17] *Western Christian Advocate*, January 9, 1846.

weeks of travel to make the rounds of his vast district; and because the population was so scattered he was often compelled to stay at the rude frontier taverns, which he describes as filled with "the disorder and abuse of the unprincipled and half-civilized inmates." Often he slept on the floor of open cabins, sometimes without bed or covering.[18]

It was in 1804 that Methodist preaching was introduced into Cincinnati, then a thriving town of some fifteen hundred houses. John Collins,[19] a local preacher from New York State, settled on the banks of the Little Miami in 1803. During the year 1804 he went to Cincinnati to purchase salt, and while making his purchase he asked the storekeeper if there were any Methodists in the town. To this question the storekeeper replied that he himself was a Methodist, whereupon Collins threw his arms about him and wept for joy. On further inquiry Collins learned that there were several other Methodist families in the place and arrangements were soon made for preaching at the house of the storekeeper. Here a class was organized, which became the nucleus of the Cincinnati Church. In 1807 Collins became a traveling preacher in the Western Conference, and was instrumental in forming the first societies in Dayton, Hillsboro, and other places.[20]

In 1805-06 Peter Cartwright was the preacher on the Scioto and Hocking Circuits, being moved from the former to the latter circuit in the middle of the year. The last Quarterly Conference of the year was a camp meeting conducted near the town of Marietta. To this meeting came a great crowd of "rabble and rowdies" on Sunday morning, "armed with dirks, clubs, knives, and horse-

[18]Finley, "Sketches of Western Methodism," pages 85-87.

[19]See the *Methodist Review* for 1850, pages 324-328, for the "Life of John Collins."

[20]Barker, "Methodism in Ohio," page 138.

whips, and swore they would break up the meeting." While Cartwright was preaching one of the rowdies stood up on one of the seats on the women's side of the camp and began to talk and laugh. The preacher ordered him down, but with oaths he refused. The magistrates present were afraid to arrest the young rowdy, so Cartwright took a hand in the matter. After a general scuffle, in which the friends of law and order took the side of the preachers, order was finally restored, but only after thirty of the ruffians had been captured, and on Monday nearly three hundred dollars was collected in fines and costs.[21]

On one occasion during this year Cartwright and his friend Axley, a preacher on the Hockhocking Circuit, were invited to dine at the house of the Governor, Edward Tiffin.[22] Axley was very crude and knew little of polite society. At the table, when he had finished eating the meat from the unjointed leg of a chicken, he whistled to the family dog and threw the bone on the floor. This caused the Governor no little merriment, and it was only with difficulty that he controlled his laughter. All the preachers, however, were not so crude as Axley, and he had many sterling qualities which made him one of the most useful and effective of the frontier preachers.

By 1808 the increase of members and circuits in Ohio made necessary the formation of two districts in the State, the Miami and the Muskingum. The Miami contained the circuits in Southwest Ohio, while the Muskingum included the territory in Southeastern Ohio as well as several circuits in Western Virginia.

We have already noted the sending of Tobias Gibson, in 1798, into the Southwest. He rode through all the settlements to the Florida line and was the father of Methodism in all that vast territory. In 1802 he returned to

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[21]Cartwright, "Autobiography," pages 90-92.

[22]*Ibid.*, pages 93, 94.

the session of the Western Conference, in Northern Tennessee, to plead for helpers; and even though deadly consumption had fastened itself upon him, he returned to the Southwest, where he gave nearly two more years to his vast circuit, its farthest limits being 1,500 miles from his home.[23] He preached his last sermon on New Year's day, 1804, and died at Natchez in April.[24] In 1802 Moses Floyd was appointed with Tobias Gibson to the Natchez Circuit, while the next year two other helpers came to the Southwest. In 1805 the Mississippi District was formed, with four circuits, and Learner Blackman was appointed as presiding elder.

To the Appalousas Circuit—one of the circuits belonging to the new Mississippi District—Elisha W. Bowman was appointed in 1805. Soon after the purchase of Louisiana, in 1803, Bishop Asbury called for volunteers to carry the gospel into the new territory. Elisha W. Bowman offered to go. His trip to his new circuit was long and arduous. He rode on horseback to New Orleans, which, he states, he found as dirty as a pigsty and in almost as bad condition morally. He went to the Governor, who promised him the city hall as a preaching place; but when Sunday came the hall was locked against him. There were few Americans in the city and most of them represented the dregs of society. He learned, however, of an American settlement some two hundred miles west and northwest, which he reached traveling mostly by boat, taking his horse on a platform supported by two canoes. This was in the Appalousas country, where he found settlements of Americans who knew "very little more about the nature of salvation than the untaught Indians," and he states "that some of them, after I had preached, asked

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[23]Hurst, "History of Methodism," Vol. V., pages 572, 573.

[24]See Minutes, Vol. I., 1805, pages 125, 126, for short biography of Tobias Gibson.

me what I meant by the fall of man, and when it was that he fell."[25]

By 1811 the Mississippi District included nine circuits. In the early years of the work in the Southwest the preachers often were so far away that they were unable to attend the annual meeting of the Western Conference, which held its sessions either in Kentucky, Tennessee, or Ohio. In the Conference of 1807 Bishop Asbury had several letters read to the Conference which had been received from the preachers on the Mississippi District who were unable to attend, and the same year Caleb W. Cloud and Thomas Lasley, who had been elected and ordained to the office of deacon the previous year, were admitted into full connection without being present, "in consequence of their mission to Natchez."[26]

Meanwhile the work in Illinois, begun in 1803, had been continued with moderate success. The Illinois Circuit in 1806 reported 110 members; in 1807 there were 218 white and 2 colored. In the fall of 1806 a missionary was sent to Missouri. This task was placed upon the shoulders of a young preacher, John Travis, who had just been admitted on trial into the Conference, having come recommended from the "Ellenoies" Quarterly Conference. His success may be seen from the 109 members which he reported for the circuit at the end of the first Conference year. In 1808 the new Indiana District included both the Illinois and the Missouri Circuits, but in 1811 an Illinois District was formed, with five circuits, all of which, however, were not in Illinois. The Illinois and Missouri Circuits in 1811 had near 700 members. At this time the Missouri territory contained not less than 16,000 inhabitants, about one-fifth of whom were slaves.

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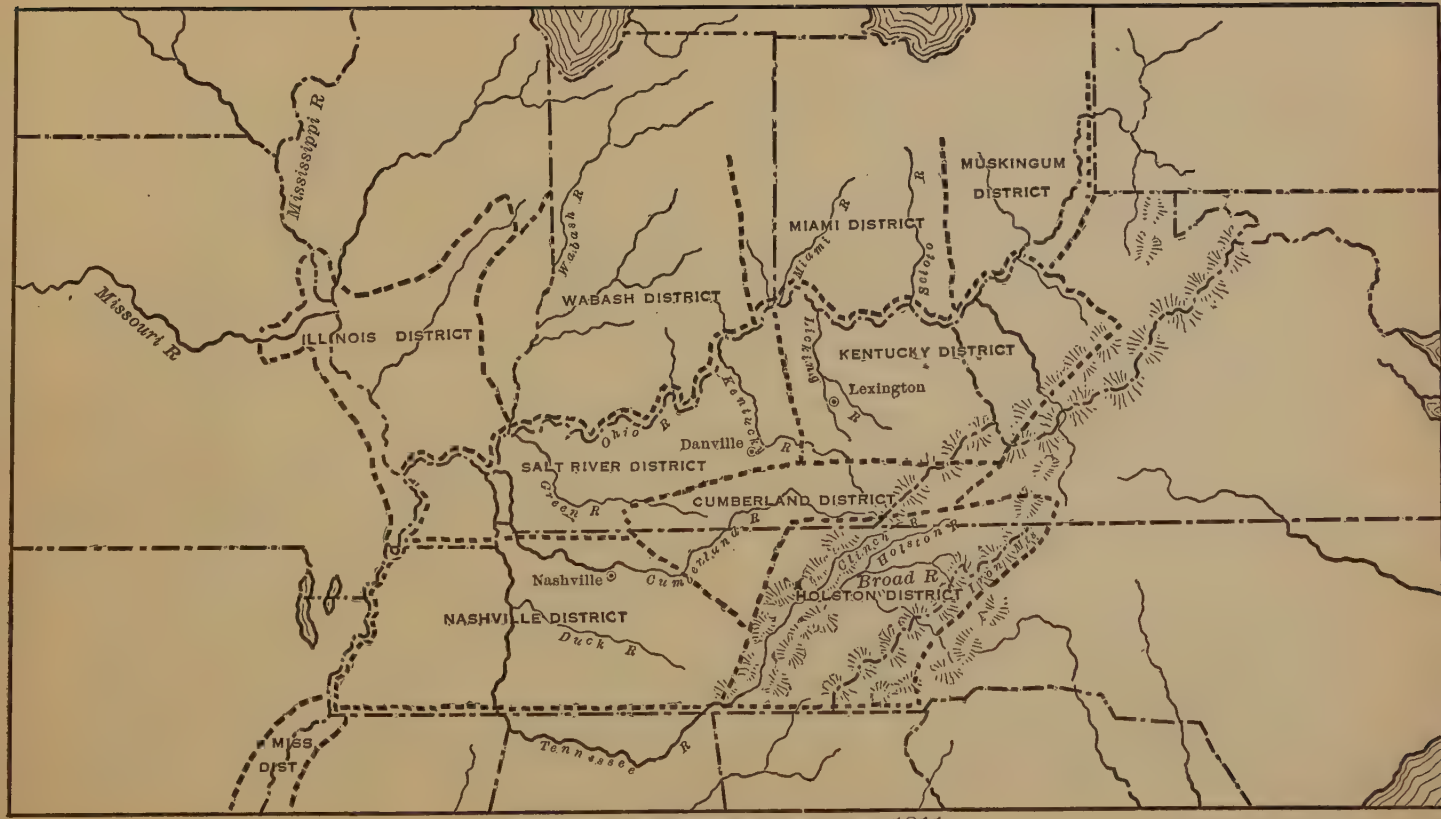
[25]William H. Milburn, "Lance, Cross, and Canoe; Flatboat, Rifle, and Plow in the Valley of the Mississippi" (New York, 1892), pages 357-360.

[26]MS. Journal of the Western Conference, 1807.



WESTERN CONFERENCE DISTRICTS, 1811.

State lines - — - — - — District boundaries - - - - - - - - -

As settlers moved in increasing numbers into Kentucky and Tennessee the number of circuits and districts in these older States had also materially increased. In 1804 there were three districts and nineteen circuits in these two States; by 1811 there were four districts and thirty-four circuits. The membership had increased accordingly. The Holston District in 1804 reported 3,122 white members and 182 colored; the Cumberland had 2,597 white and 296 colored; while the Kentucky gave the largest returns, 3,718 white and 243 colored. The total membership in these three districts, which included the circuits in Kentucky and Tennessee, was 9,437 whites and 721 colored. The membership in 1811 by districts was as follows: Holston, 4,068 white, 291 colored; Cumberland, 6,033 white, 562 colored; Kentucky, 3,335 white, 283 colored; Green River, 4,075 white and 279 colored—a total membership for the States of Kentucky and Tennessee of 17,511 white and 1,415 colored.

In the twelve years of the life of the Western Conference, from 1800 to 1811, Methodism had made a remarkable growth on the frontier. At the beginning of the new century there were not more than 2,622 white members and 179 colored in the whole Western country; twelve years later the membership had increased to 29,093 whites and 1,648 colored. The number of circuits had grown from 9 to 69, with a corresponding increase in the number of traveling preachers. At the session of the Western Conference in 1800 Bishop Asbury had sent out fourteen preachers to preach the gospel in the cabins of the frontiersmen; in 1811 Bishop McKendree stationed one hundred preachers within the bounds of the Western Conference.

To the first delegated General Conference, which convened in Baltimore in May, 1808, the Western Conference elected the following men to represent them: William

McKendree, William Burke, James Ward, Benjamin Lakin, Learner Blackman, Thomas Milligan, and John Sale.[27] McKendree had now spent eight years in the West, and was very probably little known among the Eastern brethren. There were few newspapers, and no religious paper in any denomination in the country, so there was little chance of a man in one section of the denomination becoming known to another. On the first Sunday of the General Conference McKendree was assigned to preach at the Light Street Church. There were present that morning a large congregation, made up of General Conference delegates as well as members of the Church. McKendree's appearance was not prepossessing. He was tall and of commanding appearance, but his clothes were coarse and homely and his movements were awkward and his manners rustic. Nor did the first part of his sermon strike fire. A change came when the sermon was half finished. The lion of the West made the walls of Light Street Church, as he had often made the forests of Kentucky, ring with his powerful voice, and the congregation seemed overwhelmed. "Multitudes fell helpless from their seats as if shot with a rifle."[28] Then the tone of the preacher changed again and soon shouts of triumph were heard among the congregation. When he came down from the pulpit, the people gazed at him "as they might at some messenger from another world," while the preachers with one accord said, "That is the man for a bishop." Accordingly the same week he was elected. And the choice was a most fortunate one, for there was not another man in the Church better fitted to carry on the work of Asbury than this rugged pioneer who had learned the ways of the wilderness on the frontier.

Beginning with the year 1800, the Western Conference

[27]MS. Journal of the Western Conference, 1807.

[28]Larrabee, "Asbury and His Colaborers," Vol. II., pages 207-232.

generally held its annual sessions either during the last of September or the early part of October. Bishop Asbury attended eleven of the twelve sessions, though McKendree presided at the last four sessions. At the session of 1804 Asbury was sick and unable to attend, and McKendree presided, though at that time he was only a presiding elder. At the session of 1805 both Bishops Asbury and Whatcoat were present. Five of the twelve sessions of the Western Conference were held in Kentucky, four in Tennessee, and three in Ohio. The first session in Ohio was held at Chillicothe, the first State capital, in 1807, while the sessions of 1809 and 1811 met at Cincinnati, then grown to be the metropolis of the State.

The Secretary of the Western Conference for all its sessions except the last was William Burke.[29] Burke was one of the sturdy characters of the Conference, and, though not an educated man, was evidently clear-headed and a capable officer. His penmanship is excellent, and to this day the Journal of the Conference is easily read. His spelling followed no rule, sometimes the same word being spelled different ways on the same page. Nor did he follow any rule for capitalization or punctuation. Some years he is lavish with his commas and semicolons, while other years the minutes lack punctuation almost entirely. In the early years he speaks of the "Mitionaries," and it is "destrict" to the last. Learner Blackman he invariably spells "Lawner," and there are many other peculiarities which can only be appreciated by reading the Journal. Altogether, however, the document is very creditable to the backwoods preachers, and as time went on the Journal gives evidence that both the Secretary and the members of the Western Conference are becoming more versed in the orderly management of their business and of the conduct of the affairs of the Church in general.

[29]Autobiography of William Burke, found in Finley's "Sketches of Western Methodism," pages 18-92.

CHAPTER III.

THE FRONTIER CIRCUIT AND THE CIRCUIT RIDER.

The earliest circuits west of the Allegheny Mountains had no fixed boundaries, but were as broad and long as the settlements. In most instances settlement did not long precede the coming of the circuit rider. Occasionally a new settlement would send out a petition to the nearest presiding elder requesting that a minister be sent them,[1] but in most cases it was the preacher who hunted up the congregation rather than the congregation which hunted up the preacher. The proportion of Church members in the Western settlements was very small. At the close of the American Revolution the proportion of Church members in the whole population of the United States has been estimated as one to every twenty-three, but in the frontier communities it was very probably considerably less than that. "The West was not settled by religious colonies, coming intact, with all their appliances of Church and school, with the same teacher and ferrule, the same chorister and tuning fork, the same deacon and the dominie they had in staid New England."[2] Among the earliest settlers were adventurers and not a few desperate characters fleeing from the penalties of the law in some older community east of the mountains. More numerous than these were those who came in search of cheaper homes and larger farms, though few of these were from the first families, but rather from the second and third.

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[1] An example of a community petitioning a presiding elder for a preacher is the Whitewater Circuit, Indiana. (See *Western Christian Advocate*, October 15, 1845.)

[2] *Methodist Review*, 1857, pages 280-296; article by T. M. Eddy on "Influence of Methodism on Civilization and Education in the West."

Once settled in the West, the people lived in the rudest fashion. The early cabins were built of round logs, "notched down at the corners and rendered tight by 'chinking' them over with mortar or clay. The first cabins had no floors but the earth; but later 'puncheons,' or thick slabs split out of logs, hewed smooth on one side, and secured to the joists by great wooden pins, served as a floor."[3] Many a settler's family spent their first winter in a three-sided camp, and most of the early cabins had no windows, but oiled paper tacked across the opening made in the logs served instead of glass. One needs but read the meager accounts of the cabins in which Bishop Asbury stopped on his various trips across the mountains to get a vivid description of their crowded condition, the filth, the discomfort, of even the best among these early homes of the settlers in the West. On his way to the Western Conference in 1803 Bishop Asbury caught the itch, and he observes: "Considering the filthy houses and filthy beds I have met with, in coming from the Kentucky Conference, it is perhaps strange that I have not caught it twenty times."[4] The rude and heavy doors, made of split logs, were hung on clumsy wooden hinges, and secured by a wooden latch drawn by a string or leather thong. One room was all the earliest cabins possessed, though often there was a loft, reached by a rude ladder, in which the children slept. The huge fireplace was of the roughest construction, often made of sticks, plastered over with mud so as not to catch fire.

The dress of the people was as rude as their homes. It was made of homespun cotton or "linsey-woolsey." The ministers were likewise clad in this same material, though even on the frontier there was a recognized ministerial garb. The preachers generally wore straight-breasted

[3] *Ibid.*, 1871; article by Williams on "Early Methodism in the West."

[4] Asbury's Journal, Vol. III., page 119.

coats, high standing collars, long waistcoats, and the plainest of neckties. Suspenders were a luxury which were little known on the frontier. The preachers likewise affected a peculiar mode of hairdressing; from about midway between the forehead and the crown of the head the hair was turned back and permitted to grow down to the shoulders.[5]

The frontier cabins were furnished mostly with home-made chairs, tables, and beds. The chairs were hickory split-bottomed, while the bedsteads were stationary, fastened to the sides of the cabin. The mattress of straw rested upon slats, for there were no springs on the frontier. A well made, clean bed, with tastefully made quilts and high bolsters, snowy white sheets and blankets was the greatest pride of the frontier housewife. Such were the cabins in which the first Methodist preaching in the West was conducted.

The first settlements in a new country were always located along the banks of creeks or rivers, generally near some good spring. The reason for so locating the settlements was in order that a supply of water might never run low and also because the valleys contained the most fertile soil. The circuit rider, making his way for the first time into a new country, followed the path or trace from settlement to settlement, stopping at each cabin as he came to it, to make inquiries as to the neighborhood, whether there were any of Methodist leanings about, and as to the best place to hold service. But the circuit rider did not wait for Methodist families before he began his activities; he announced preaching whether there were any Methodists or not.

As we glance over the names of the early circuits in the West, we notice that many of them were named after streams.[6] Of the nine circuits in the Western Conference

[5] "Autobiography of Joseph Tarkington," pages 75, 85.
[6] Minutes of Conferences, Vol. I. (1773-1828).

in 1800, eight of them were thus named. Every circuit in the Holston District in 1802 bore the name of a creek or river. The two earliest circuits in Ohio, the Miami and the Scioto, were located along the banks of those two rivers; and finally, when districts were laid out in Ohio, they were called the Miami and Muskingum. The same is true of Indiana. The two earliest Indiana circuits were the Whitewater and the Silver Creek, both named after streams; and later there were the Patoka and the Blue River Circuits, both located along the banks of the streams from which they received their names. The Holston District in 1811 had four circuits named after rivers and three with names of valleys. The Cumberland the same year contained four circuits named after streams; the Nashville District had four similarly named, the Wabash District had two, the Kentucky District four, Salt River District two, the Mississippi District four, the Illinois District two, the Miami six, and the Muskingum District three. Of the nine districts of the Western Conference in 1811, every one had the name of a river except the Nashville.

The earliest circuits in the West were either four-, five-, or six-weeks circuits—that is, it took the circuit rider that length of time to make the rounds of the circuit. In the year 1800 Henry Smith's circuit covered all Southern Ohio between the Ohio and the Scioto Rivers. Benjamin Lakin the same year traveled a circuit in Northern Kentucky extending from Maysville to the Licking River, while the Secretary of the Conference, William Burke, traveled a circuit in Central Kentucky extending a hundred miles each way. James B. Finley's first circuit, the Wills Creek, was four hundred and seventy-five miles around.[7] In 1804 a preacher was simply assigned to Illinois, while three years later another indefatigable circuit rider was sent to

[7]James B. Finley, "Autobiography," page 193.

Missouri as his circuit. Tobias Gibson traveled up and down the Lower Mississippi for several hundred miles, and Elisha Bowman covered a territory, after the Louisiana purchase, equally as large. Neither hardship nor distance deterred the preachers from carrying on the work to which they were assigned.

Preaching appointments were generally for 12 o'clock, noon, on all days except the Sabbath.[8] The reason for this perhaps was that on a clear day everybody could tell by the sun when it was noon, for there were few clocks and fewer watches in a frontier community. The circuit rider, as a rule, preached at least once every day, and his advent into a community was the signal for a general turn-out of all Methodist families.[9] Many others also attended the meeting, even on week days, for all were always welcome. It was not an uncommon thing for men and women to walk five or six miles to attend class meeting, and at night the same distance to attend prayer meeting, lighting their way through the woods with blazing hickory bark. In summer men and boys attended the meetings in their bare feet, while the women and girls, if they possessed shoes and stockings, carried them in their hands until they came in sight of the place of meeting, then, washing off the dust in the nearest brook or spring, finished their toilets, that they might appear more decent in the company.[10]

The number attending the daily ministry of the circuit rider varied with the community and the time of year. Generally the service was held in a cabin, with a chair for a pulpit, while the congregation gathered about the preacher; and if it were summer time, half of the congregation would be on the outside. Sometimes the minister would stand in the doorway, while the people would be

[8]Sweet, "Circuit Rider Days in Indiana," page 48.

[9]Williams, "Pictures of Early Methodism in Ohio," pages 51-53.

[10]*Ibid.*, pages 56 ff.

gathered in the yard of the cabin. The great occasions were the quarterly meetings, when the sacraments were administered and love feasts held. These meetings began on Friday evening or Saturday morning and lasted through until Monday morning. People came from twenty to thirty miles around. The neighborhood where the meeting was to be held made simple but ample provision for the entertainment. The larder was well filled with all the frontier staples, while pies and cakes were also prepared in abundance. On the Little Miami, in the early frontier days, it was customary to hold a certain quarterly meeting; and here three wealthy families did all the entertaining, often each providing for as many as from fifty to a hundred people. At night the women were accommodated on the floor of the cabins, while men and boys repaired to the barns, which had been swept and otherwise prepared for their entertainment.

The preaching at a quarterly meeting occasion began on a Saturday morning, two sermons in succession being the order of the service. At night another preaching service was held, at which the junior preacher on the circuit usually held forth. But Sunday was the great day. First came the love feast conducted by one of the preachers, and following it at eleven o'clock came the sermon by the presiding elder, followed by a sermon from one of the circuit preachers. Following this the sacraments were administered, the Lord's Supper and Baptism, while the meeting closed with a preaching and prayer service at night, sometimes lasting, if the results warranted it, until near Monday morning. At this meeting the converts were gathered in, sometimes numbered by the score. The attendance at these meetings reached into the hundreds, and not infrequently into the thousands.

One of the typical presiding elders on the frontier in the early years of the nineteenth century was Samuel Par-

ker.[11] A native of New Jersey, he began to preach in 1800. He came West and joined the Western Conference in 1805, his first circuit being the Hinkstone, in Kentucky. As presiding elder he served the Indiana, Kentucky, Miami, and Mississippi Districts. His career was cut short by death in 1819, while engaged on his district along the Mississippi. Parker was a tall, slim, awkward man, with large blue eyes and an enormous Roman nose. He had a long chin which he used in the winter to hold up the blanket which served him in lieu of a greatcoat. A hole was cut in the center of the blanket large enough to let his small head through, and when it was bitter cold he would hang the fore part of the hole on his chin and bid defiance to wind and cold. And when his bed covering proved insufficient, his blanket was made to serve that purpose; and it was frequently brought into use, for bed covering was scant, especially at quarterly meetings.

Let us picture this homely, awkward frontier preacher, clad in ill-fitting, homespun preacher garb, as he conducts the preaching on a quarterly meeting occasion. He places his chair before him as his pulpit, and begins to read a hymn in a soft, charming voice. After the singing comes the prayer, which is uttered with such eloquence and pathos "that heaven and earth seem in juxtaposition." And then follows the sermon on the text, "The upright shall love thee." One who was present and heard this very sermon says: "I have since heard the most able divines in the country, but his description of the good man's love to God and God's love to man, I have not been privileged to hear equaled since, and indeed I never expect to hear anything this side of the throne of God which will surpass it."[12]

Most of the early preachers in the West were unmarried men; and according to William Burke, the Secretary of

[11]Memorial sketch of the life of Samuel Parker, Minutes, Vol. I., pages 358, 359.

[12]*Western Christian Advocate*, Allen Wiley articles, 1845-46.

the Western Conference, he was the first preacher to travel as a married man west of the mountains. Not only were the circuit preachers unmarried, but Bishop Asbury as well as all of the bishops until Robert R. Roberts was elected in 1816 were likewise bachelors. When a preacher married he was usually advised to locate, for it was considered impossible for a Western circuit to support a married preacher. Concerning the hardships which attended the first married circuit rider west of the mountains, we will let Burke speak:[13] "From the 9th of January, 1796, I traveled as a married man, no allowance being made for the wife. Part of this time sixty-four dollars was allowed a traveling preacher, and he must find his own horse and fixins, his own wardrobe and that of his wife, together with her board; and the other part of the time it was eighty dollars, still nothing for wife. I was the first married preacher in the West who traveled after marrying. I met with every discouragement that could be thrown in my way. Preachers and people said, 'You had better locate.' I shared equally with the single men when they were on the circuit with me, in order to keep the peace. . . . One winter I had to use a borrowed blanket instead of a cloak or overcoat."

In the Journal of the Western Conference for 1803 is this entry:

> Benjamin Lakin's account [of deficiency in his salary], $28.95. But it appears that the circuit maintained Brother Lakin's wife and her beast gratis. It is therefore our opinion that it is ungenerous in him to bring a demand on Conference; and seeing there are others more needy, it is our judgment that he ought not have anything.
>
> Jesse Walker's account, $165.37. And it appears to us that $76 are for children. It is our judgment that the demand for children be deducted, and then he is deficient $89.37.[14]

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[13] Finley, "Sketches of Western Methodism," page 91.

[14] MS. Journal of the Western Conference for 1803.

These two entries illustrate something of the discouragements which attended the path of the married circuit rider on the frontier. In 1809, the year James B. Finley began to preach, he was unable to find any place for his family to live on the circuit, and he was compelled to build a log cabin, 12x14, for their accommodation; but he states that it was "sufficiently capacious, as we had nothing but a bed and some wearing appearel. My funds being all exhausted, I sold the boots off my feet to purchase provisions with."[15]

The amount of salary allowed each preacher from 1784 to 1800 was $64, according to the provision of the Discipline. In 1792 traveling expenses were added to this sum. From 1800 to 1816 the salary allowed the traveling preachers was raised to $80 and traveling expenses; the same allowance was also made the wives of traveling preachers, while children up to seven years were allowed $16 each, and $24 from the age of seven to fourteen. In 1816 the salary was raised to $100.[16] This salary was uniform for bishops, presiding elders, and circuit riders. In 1808 Bishop McKendree's receipts and expenditures were as follows: From seven Conferences, $175; salary, $80; traveling and other expenses, $61.63; leaving $33.37, which the Bishop was particular in noting to be yet due the Conferences.[17]

While this salary seems pitiably small, yet the preachers on the frontier had difficulty in collecting even this small amount. The Journals of the Western Conference for every year of its twelve years of history show long lists of deficiencies, and a considerable part of the business of each session consisted in dividing up the small amounts

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[15]Finley, "Autobiography," page 194.

[16]Emory, "History of the Discipline," pages 42, 237, 244.

[17]*Methodist Review*, 1871, pages 586, 587.

received from the Chartered Fund[18] and the Book Concern among the preachers who reported deficiencies. Thus in 1805 the deficiencies amounted to $985; to meet this $591 was obtained from the following sources:

Collected from the Circuits	$ 24 87
Draft on the Charter Fund	150 00
Draft on the Book Fund	300 00
Publick collection at Conference	51 50
Collection from the preachers at Conference	55 25
Extra collection for Brother Bowman	10 00
Making a total of	$591 62[19]

Certainly it was not a financial consideration which drew men into the traveling ministry of the Methodist Church in the frontier stage of its history. The poverty of the average frontier preacher is almost beyond our comprehension. Bishop Asbury states that at the session of the Western Conference in 1806 "the brethren were in want, and could not suit themselves; so I parted with my watch, my coat, and my shirt."[20] Although the Discipline called for traveling expenses and provision for the wife and children of a traveling preacher, yet, as Cartwright observes, "the Discipline was a dead letter on the subject of house rent, table expenses, and a dividend for children," and it was not until 1813 that any provision was made for the care of the children of the preachers in the West; and

[18]The Chartered Fund originated at the General Conference of 1798. Previous to this there had been a Preacher's Fund, created by the payment of every traveling preacher, on admission into full connection in the Conference, a sum of $5, and year after year an additional sum of $2. The Chartered Fund was contributed by friends, was funded under the direction of trustees, and the interest applied to meet the deficiencies and needs of preachers, their wives and children. (Emory, "History of the Discipline," page 251. See also Finley, "Sketches of Western Methodism," pages 50, 51.)

[19]MS. Journal, 1805.

[20]Asbury's Journal, Vol. III., page 206.

then it was through the effort of Bishop Asbury, who, as Cartwright expressed it, "begged from door to door in the older Conferences and came on and distributed ten dollars to each child of a traveling preacher under fourteen years of age."[21] Peter Cartwright joined the Western Conference in 1804, and in 1807 he was compelled to return to the home of his father because he had no money nor clothes and he also lacked a horse, saddle, and bridle. On receiving a new outfit as a gift from his father he again set out for his circuit, "for another three years' absence."[22]

Although the salary of a traveling preacher was meager in the extreme, yet even the amount which he received was not always paid in cash. A typical steward's record for a circuit in Indiana in the early twenties shows that a good part of the "salary" was paid in cloth, corn, leather, socks, etc.:

To cash received from Lewis's class	$ 0 50
To cash received from Curtis's class	50
To cash received from Connerville class	2 50
To cash received from Abbott's class	1 00
To cash received from Hardy's class	87½
Bridle leather from Hardy's class	62½
Cash from Tullis's class	1 25
Shoe leather and corn from Tullis's	1 75
Cash from Lower's class	2 56½
1 pair of shoe soles from Lower's class	50
Cash from Robert's class	4 65
Cash from Hardy's class	75
2½ yards of linsey from Hardy's class	1 12½
Cash from Abbott's class	1 32
Cash from Curtis's class	50
7 yards of linen from Curtis's	1 75
One small pair of shoes from Curtis's	1 00
3¾ yards of linen from Alley's class	1 25
2½ yards of linsey from Alley's class	1 25
8¾ yards of linsey from Lewis's class	3 27
1 pair of socks from Lewis's class	43¾
Cash from Grigg's class	2 12½
Total	$36 12½

[21] Cartwright, "Autobiography," page 111.

[22] *Ibid.*, pages 103-107.

The quarterage was applied as follows:

By cash to A. Cummins, traveling expenses	$ 0 50
By cash J. Havens, traveling expenses	1 50
To A. Cummins, allowances	3 75
To J. Havens, allowances	30 37½
Total	$36 12½[23]

Among the common occurrences on a frontier circuit were the religious controversies. The salient points of Methodist theology were always emphasized in the preaching and prayers of the circuit rider. Nor were the Baptists, the Presbyterians, the Shakers, the New Lights any the less emphatic in emphasizing their peculiarities. In fact, the differences in doctrine had far greater emphasis laid upon them than in these days.

The greatest opponents of Methodist theology were the Calvinists, as represented particularly by the Presbyterians. Some of the controversies with the Presbyterians were extremely bitter, rendered more so by the fact that the Presbyterian ministry were far better educated than were the Methodist preachers, and in consequence they assumed an arrogance in their discussions which the Methodists greatly resented. There are numerous instances, however, where Presbyterians and Methodists got on well together. Bishop Asbury was particularly friendly toward them, had numerous friends among the Presbyterian clergy, and frequently requested them to preach at Methodist meetings where he presided. Particularly was this true after the great revival in the West at the beginning of the nineteenth century, in which the Presbyterians and Methodists had drawn closer together.[24]

[23] *Western Christian Advocate,* November 21, 1860; article by F. C. Holliday.

[24] "I dined with Mr. Ramsey, a Presbyterian minister, at his own house on Friday; and he with me to-day at my lodgings; we had quite a Christian interview." (Asbury's Journal, Vol. III., page 80.) At the Conference in Tennessee in 1802 Bishop

Perhaps the most notorious controversy between Methodists and Presbyterians during the life of the Western Conference was one which occurred in Cincinnati following the session of the Conference in that city in 1811. While the Conference was in session three of the younger members, Peter Cartwright, Thomas Stilwell, and Samuel Griffin, took advantage of their stay in the city to have some pamphlets printed against Calvinism.[25] One of the pamphlets was in poetical form, or rather doggerel, and was entitled "The Dagon of Calvinism; or, The Molock of Decrees: A Poem in Three Cantos." It had been written in New England by a man who had never been a Methodist, and was reprinted in Cincinnati without the knowledge or approval of the Conference. Cartwright states that his reason for printing the pamphlets was to answer pamphlets which had been circulated in Kentucky ridiculing and caricaturing Methodist doctrine. One such Presbyterian pamphlet was entitled "A Dialogue between Calvinists and Arminians." Another Presbyterian had written against Lorenzo Dow's "Chain," in which strong predestination sentiments were presented. In answer to these there had already appeared anonymously a pamphlet entitled "A Useful Discovery; or, I Never Saw the Like Before," which was a complete satire on Calvinist doctrine. This last pamphlet Cartwright and his associates had reprinted at Cincinnati at the same time as "The Dagon of Calvinism."

Asbury was too sick to preach, and he asked two Presbyterian ministers to "supply my lack of public service, which they did with great fervency and fidelity." (Journal, Vol. III., page 81.) Frequently Presbyterians offered their churches for Methodist meetings and not infrequently for Bishop Asbury to preach.

[25]An account of this controversy will be found in Williams's "Pictures of Early Methodism in Ohio," Chap. VIII., pages 156-186. Also in Cartwright's "Fifty Years a Presiding Elder," Chap. IV., pages 92-193.

This sorry controversial matter was soon thrown broadcast over Southern Kentucky and created considerable stir in Presbyterian circles. The pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati took the matter up and held the Western Conference as responsible. Letters were exchanged between him and the Methodist pastors of Cincinnati, which tended to increase the bitterness, while Cartwright received a long letter anonymously written—supposedly by two Presbyterian ministers—which purports to be written by the devil. In this pamphlet Cartwright is considered the devil's faithful servant, because of his activity against Calvinist doctrine. To this pamphlet Cartwright replied, addressing his letter "To the Right Honorable, The Devil," and beginning, "If I am to answer a fool according to his folly, permit me to answer a devil according to his malice; therefore expect plain language."

The chief differences between Methodists and Baptists arose over the question of immersion as necessary to salvation and the Baptist practice of close communion. Cartwright complains that the Baptists were great proselyters, and that after Methodists had begun a meeting in a wicked community the Baptists would then come and preach "Water!" "Water!" "Water!" and during the absence of the preachers at other points on the circuit they would attempt to rush the recent converts into the water. "They made so much ado about baptism by immersion," he says, "that the uninformed would suppose that heaven was an island, and there was no way to get there but by diving or swimming." But even Cartwright has a good word for some of the Baptist preachers and people on the frontier.[26]

Other sects with which the frontier Methodists came into contact and often conflict were the "Campbellites,"

[26]Cartwright, "Autobiography," pages 133-138. For a good example of the type of controversy carried on between Methodists and Baptists see Cartwright's "Autobiography," pages 150, 151.

Universalists, and Shakers. All the Protestant denominations joined in opposing the Universalists; in fact, opposition to Universalist doctrine was about the only common theological ground on which the several sects could stand. Debates on religious and theological subjects were commonly held, continuing night after night while the people gathered in great crowds to support their particular theological champion. A certain debate in Indiana between a Methodist and Universalist in the early day lasted three days. In the course of the debate the Universalist painted a hell for the Methodist champion and his brethren to look at, and then flung into it all the human race that orthodoxy excluded from heaven. The Methodist replied by sending Judas to heaven before his Lord and carried all liars, lechers, seducers, and murderers to Abraham's bosom, "all bedeviled and unrepentent as they were."

The Shakers were a communistic sect very active in Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana in the early years of the nineteenth century. They did not recognize marriage as a Christian institution and held to other strange notions. The Methodist circuit rider was a deadly enemy of this delusion and took every opportunity of openly opposing them. From the Methodist standpoint they seemed the very outcast among the sects. There was a settlement of Shakers on the Lower Wabash, in Indiana, at a place called Busroe.[27] To this settlement had come Kentucky immigrants, among whom were Methodists, Baptists, and Cumberland Presbyterians. Some of them had joined the Shakers, while others remained steadfast to their former faith. Cartwright came over from Kentucky to this settlement for the purpose of saving the remaining Methodists from falling into "the muddy pools of Shakerism." On arriving in the settlement he challenged the Shaker

[27]The Shakers were officially known as "The United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Coming."

"priests" to a debate, but no one answered the challenge. The meeting, however, was held, nevertheless, and for three hours Cartwright held forth, "until the very foundations of every Shaker present were shaken from under him." As a result of this meeting forty-seven former Shakers gave their names to the Methodist Church and a class was immediately organized.[28]

Such contests developed a remarkable quickness of wit among the frontier preachers. At New Harmony, on the Lower Wabash in Indiana, there had been established a communistic community by the Rappites, a German sect. Later the Rappites sold out their interest to Robert Owen, a Scotch mill owner, who was interested in founding a socialistic community. On one occasion a Methodist circuit rider was preaching in the hall at New Harmony, which was open to all denominations or to any one who had any message to give. It was the custom of a certain member of the community to rise in the meeting and question the speakers. He accordingly arose while James Armstrong, a Methodist preacher, was preaching and propounded the question, "How do you know you have a soul?" To this Armstrong replied, "I feel it." "Did you ever smell, taste, see, or hear your soul?" said the questioner. "No," said Armstrong. "Then you have four senses against you," replied the skeptic. Armstrong then propounded this question to his questioner: "Mr. Jennings, did you ever have the toothache?" "Yes," said Jennings. "Did you ever smell, taste, see, or hear the toothache?" asked the preacher. "No," replied Jennings. "Then," said Armstrong, "you have four senses against you."[29]

It is generally supposed that the early Methodist preachers, particularly in the West, were very ignorant men, and it is true that many of them lacked school edu-

[28]Cartwright, pages 53-55.

[29]Autobiography of Rev. Joseph Tarkington, 104.

cation; but to say that they were ignorant men is far from the truth. They were uneducated in the sense in which Abraham Lincoln was an uneducated man; but, like Lincoln, they became trained men in the truest sense of the word. Bishop Asbury was not a college-bred man, but he was far from being an uneducated or unlearned preacher. He was constantly occupied with some book.[30] He always carried books in his saddlebags, as did all the circuit riders. The list of books which he found time to read as he rode from place to place is a long one, and contains not only books on religious subjects, but also history, biography, literature, and even books on medicine. While the education of the average circuit rider was extremely limited, yet somehow they became efficient interpreters of a larger life, and as a class developed a keenness of mind and a readiness of wit that finds few equals. They were men of few books, but they absorbed the few they possessed. The books with which they became most familiar were the Bible, the Discipline, Wesley's Sermons, and Fletcher's "Appeal."

The eloquence of these pioneers was not the kind learned in schools or from the study of books. There is no better way to account for it than to let John Strange, a prince among Western preachers, tell of the school in which he learned it. His Alma Mater, said he, was "Brush College, more ancient, though less pretentious, than Yale, Harvard, or Princeton. Here I graduated, and I love her memory still. Her academic groves are the boundless forests and prairies of these Western wilds; her Pierian springs are the gushing fountains from the rocks and mountain fastnesses; her Arcadian groves and Orphic songs are the wildwoods, and the birds of every color and every song, relieved now and then with the bass hootings

[30]Tipple, "Francis Asbury, the Prophet of the Long Road," pages 90-106. The author here gives a list of the books read and studied by Asbury, with his comments upon them.

of the night owl and the weird treble of the whippoorwill; her curriculum is the philosophy of nature and the mysteries of redemption; her library is the word of God, the Discipline, the hymn book, supplemented with trees and brooks and stones, all of which are full of wisdom and sermons and speeches; and her parchments of literary honors are the horse and the saddlebags."[31]

The type of preaching practiced by the early circuit riders in the West is hard to define. The general conception of Methodist preaching of the time seems to be that it was wild and incoherent, with little that appealed to thinking people. This may have been true of the preaching of a few, but it could hardly be considered characteristic. The preachers were often vigorous and noisy, but most of them had regard for the decencies of public worship and did not countenance the extravagant. As a rule preaching was of a doctrinal character. They believed and preached the doctrine of the fall of man; all men were conceived and born in sin, and Jesus Christ died for all, with the emphasis upon the "all." This was by way of contrast with the Calvinists, who preached a limited salvation. They also emphasized the doctrine of personal responsibility. They proclaimed the "free will" of the individual, that every person had the power of choice. "So then every one of us must give an account of himself to God," was a favorite text of the circuit preacher, and many a reckless frontiersman has quailed under the burning sermons preached from that text. Then they bore down upon the doctrine of regeneration also, that the soul can be newly created and transformed; and this was not simply a change of purpose, but a change of character. This was conver-

[31]For a description of John Strange and his method of preaching see an article by W. C. Smith on "John Strange at Camp-Meetings," *Western Christian Advocate*, June 23, 1858; also J. C. Smith, "Early Methodism in Indiana," pages 38, 39.

sion, the "new birth" of which Methodists had much to say, and taught it on all occasions, as necessary for entrance into the kingdom. They preached also that conversion must be manifested and become a matter of one's own personal consciousness. "Being faithful" was the term which summed up for the Methodists correct living; and the opposite, "backsliding," was a term which described the state of a Methodist who, having once been "converted," had failed "to be faithful." The preaching of these rude preachers was abundantly practical and touched the life of the community at every point.

Frontier Methodists were extremely fond of hymn-singing; they sang hymns in their homes, about their work, at their family altars, as well as in their meetings. The Methodists had an official Hymn Book dating from the organization of the Church, in 1784; but there were few of these books on the frontier, except with the preachers. Frequently no one in a congregation possessed a hymn book except the preacher, who gave out the verses to be sung, two lines at a time. Many of the hymns, however, were well known, and except in the public congregation were sung without the process of being lined out. Aside from the hymns found in the Church hymnal there grew up on the frontier a great number of improvised hymns. At the beginning of a camp meeting the regular hymns would be sung; but as the meeting warmed up hymns, or "spiritual songs," as they were termed, many times improvised by the preachers on the spot, were used. These songs were very imperfect in rhyme, rude in expression, and to us to-day seem totally impossible; but they were learned by the people and often used in place of the older and more worthy hymns. Many of these frontier hymns have been lost, for some of them never appeared in print, but a few have come

down to us, preserved in an old song book, first printed in 1810. Two of the frontier preachers who obtained a reputation as song writers were John A. Grenade and Caleb J. Taylor, both of whom wrote a number of hymns found in this little volume.

The theme of these crude frontier hymns varied. Sometimes they described a camp meeting scene, as does this song written by Taylor:

Sinners through the camp are falling,
Deep distress their souls pervade,
Wondering why they are not rolling
In the dark infernal shade.
Grace and mercy, long neglected,
Now they ardently implore;
In an hour when least expected
Jesus bids them weep no more.

Hear them then their God extolling,
Tell the wonders he has done;
While they rise, see others falling!
Light into their hearts hath shone.
Prayer and praise, and exhortation,
Blend in one perpetual sound;
Music sweet beyond expression,
To rejoicing saints around.[32]

More often, however, the theme of these camp meeting songs was "divine mercy" or "saving grace," of which the following by John A. Grenade is a sample:

Think of what your Saviour bore
In the gloomy garden,
Sweating blood at every pore,
To procure thy pardon;
See Him stretched upon the wood,
Bleeding, grieving, crying;
Suffering all the wrath of God,
Groaning, gasping, dying.

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[32]"The Early Camp-Meeting Song Writers," by Fry, *Methodist Review*, 1859, pages 401-413.

CHAPTER IV.

THE CIRCUIT RIDER AS A FACTOR IN FRONTIER SOCIETY.

All historians recognize the importance of the activities of the Jesuits in the early history of Canada, and the Great Lakes region of the United States particularly. Their story has been admirably told by one of America's greatest historians, Francis Parkman; while the documents relating to their activities have been gathered together by another American historian, Reuben Gold Thwaites, in that remarkable series of volumes known as the "Jesuit Relations." The equally important activities of the early circuit riders in the West, however, have as yet received little recognition from historians; while the documents relating to their labors have been scattered to the four winds and the complete story of their lives and work remains yet to be written.[1] A distinguished jurist, a Judge of the Supreme Court in one of the Central Western States, was accustomed to say years ago, "But for the Methodist Church and the Methodist ministry, this country would have sunk into barbarism." While this assertion may be somewhat too sweeping in all its implications, yet an examination of the activities and influences which emanated from the Methodist Church on the frontier in the latter years of the eighteenth and the early years of the nineteenth centuries will go far toward substantiating the declaration. It has only

[1]Perhaps the best appreciation of frontier Methodism written by a non-Methodist appeared in the French *Revue des Deux Mondes*, by M. Cucheval-Clevigny, which was translated and published in the *Methodist Review* (1854, pages 556, 577; 1855, pages 69-88). The original articles in the French *Revue* appeared soon after the publication of Cartwright's "Autobiography."

been in recent years, however, that the historian has even begun to give credit to the rude preachers of righteousness on the frontier. Recently American history textbooks have been published in which Cartwright's "Autobiography" and Brunson's "Western Pioneer" have been cited as reading references.

As has already been pointed out, the Methodist plan of organization was exactly suited to a new country and a scattered population. Frontier society was in a state of flux, but the ministers of the Methodist Church were equally mobile and were just as much at home whether society were on the move or stationary. It seems probable that no other system could have met the conditions; at least no other did. The circuit rider was equally at home in the saddle, in the rude cabin of the settler, in the Indian lodge, or out under the wide-spreading branches of the beeches and maples. He worked at his never-ending task not for personal glory or for "salary," but for the glory of God and the spread of the gospel. Often he reached the emigrant before the roof was on his cabin or the clay in the stick chimney dry. The whole Western country was laid out into circuits and districts, and into each obscure settlement came at stated times the circuit rider, at longer intervals came the presiding elder, and once each year, into the Western country, came the bishop, preaching, ordaining, and holding the sacraments. And to the camp meetings, the quarterly meetings, and the Conferences flocked the people of the frontier. They often came long distances, on foot, in their rude wagons, on horseback, men, women, and children.

What was the influence upon Western society exerted by these devoted men, organized as they were into an effective machine for spreading the gospel? It goes almost without saying that they exerted a powerful influence for religion and righteousness. They preached a theology greatly

needed in a new country, infested, as all new countries are, with rough and many times criminal characters. The great doctrine, urged on all occasions, was that of "conversion," a change of life and heart. They proclaimed all men to be sinners and that salvation lay only through Jesus Christ. It was an extremely practical gospel they proclaimed; a gospel which manifested itself in the daily life of the convert. It was "by their fruits" they were known, and thus in a rough and rude community they brought the softening influences of Christianity.

The circuit rider was also a powerful influence in maintaining law and order. He always had the greatest respect for law, both of the Church, of the State, and of the nation. The Methodist system of Church government, devised by John Wesley and brought to America by Francis Asbury, was a most thorough and efficient system. Asbury was not so great a preacher as he was an organizer; and he stood always for obedience to the laws of the Church.[2] Order was his passion, and the introduction of such an orderly system into more or less disorderly communities must have had far-reaching influence. The circuit rider stood for decency and order in public worship, and many times took the leading part in preserving it. Of one of the presiding elders on the frontier it has been said by one who knew him that "he would not suffer anything which was manifestly enthusiastic or extravagant in religious assemblies to pass without rebuke. . . . His nice sense of propriety induced him to keep the very best order at the meetings superintended by him.

At many a camp meeting the preachers were compelled to resort to force to preserve order. The following ac-

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[2]Tipple, "Francis Asbury, the Prophet of the Long Road," pages 241, 242.

count of such a scene is typical. At a camp meeting near Marietta, Ohio, in the fall of 1806 a crowd of "rabble and rowdies," as Cartwright describes them, came on a Sunday morning, "armed with dirks, clubs, knives, and horsewhips, and swore they would break up the meeting." While Cartwright was preaching, one of the rowdies stood up on a seat and began to talk and laugh. The preacher ordered him down, but with oaths he refused. The magistrates were afraid to arrest the roughs, so the preachers were compelled to interfere. After a general scuffle, in which the friends of law and order stood by the preachers, the roughs were put to flight, though not until some thirty had been captured, and on Monday nearly three hundred dollars was collected in fines and costs.[3]

Nor is this an unusual circumstance. Finley describes a similar scene where "about twenty lewd fellows of the baser sort" came to a camp meeting intoxicated, with the avowed purpose of breaking up the meeting, but only to find that the preachers and the Methodist brethren were more than their match.[4]

Not only did the circuit rider stand for law and order, but he also stood for moderation in religious practices. It has been the general conception that the early frontier preachers desired to work the people up to a state of religious frenzy at every meeting, and that they took special delight in such strange exercises as the "jerks," the "holy laugh," the "barking exercise," and that they encouraged trances and visions; but this is an entire misconception. None of the preachers objected to hearty shouts during their preaching, but there were few fanatics among them, and what few of that sort did creep into the ministry were soon weeded out

[3]Cartwright, "Autobiography," pages 90-92.
[4]Finley, "Autobiography," page 252.

by the watchful presiding elders. At a certain camp meeting conducted in the West "there were many . . . strange and wild exercises into which the subjects of this revival fell; such, for instance, as . . . the running, jumping, and barking exercise. The Methodist preachers generally preached against this extravagant wildness." Cartwright states: "I did it uniformly in my ministrations, and sometimes gave great offense."[5]

Western morality was extremely loose, and in many communities little attempt was made to preserve order or uphold decent morality by the civil authorities. "Travelers from the East were shocked at the balls, the drinking, the fighting, and the utter disregard paid to the Sabbath day. Good people were terrified at the drunkenness, the vice, the gambling, the brutal fights, the gouging, the needless duels they beheld on every hand."[6] In the face of this looseness the Methodist Church maintained and proclaimed an unbending morality. The circuit rider waged war with vice of every sort. Not content with renouncing sin in general, he often came to particulars, called out names in meeting, denounced sinners to their very face, and called upon them to repent. The Methodist Church was the original Temperance Society in the West, if not in the nation. The General Rules formulated by John Wesley were adopted by the American Church at its organization in 1784. Among them was one forbidding "drunkenness, buying or selling of spirituous liquors, or drinking them, unless in cases of necessity."[7] In addition to this rule the American Church adopted another, forbidding members from distilling grain into liquor and advised the preachers strongly to persuade their members from drinking drams.

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[5]Cartwright, "Autobiography," pages 51, 52.

[6]McMaster, Vol. II., pages 152, 578.

[7]Emory, "History of the Discipline," pages 181, 192.

Temperance was a theme unheard and unthought of outside the pale of the Methodist Church. No other Church had legislation covering the subject, but it was left to the individual to use his discretion regarding the matter. As a result of the attitude toward liquor taken by the Methodist Church, and the fact that the other Churches had nothing to say upon the subject, it followed "as a necessary consequence that all persons who refused to drink were called, by way of reproach, Methodist fanatics."[8] The strange doctrine of antinomianism[9] had early gained foothold in the West and had been fostered by Church organizations and defended from the pulpit. This doctrine was preached particularly by certain branches of the Baptists. Moral reform they proclaimed as a presumptuous intermeddling with the Divine plans. Alcohol was termed a "good creature of God to be received with thanksgiving."[10] A certain prominent preacher of the anti-means doctrine destroyed the confidence of his flock in his sincerity by erecting lightning rods on his buildings. He saw no need of "means" to save his soul, but did to save his oats and buckwheat. At one time on the frontier at a certain Church meeting of an antinomian congregation one member was expelled for habitual drunkenness and another for being a member of a temperance society, which led a too curious member to ask, "How much liquor must he drink to retain his standing in the Church, since drinking too much and drinking none at all were both capital crimes?"

At the time the Methodist Church was established in the West practically every one drank liquor. "Ardent

[8]Finley, "Autobiography," page 249.

[9]An "antinomian" is one who maintains that under the gospel dispensation the moral law is of no use or obligation, on the ground that faith alone is necessary to salvation.

[10]*Methodist Review*, April, 1857, pages 287, 288.

spirits were used as a preventive of disease. It was also regarded as a necessary beverage. A house could not be raised, a field of wheat could not be cut down, nor could there be a log-rolling, a husking, a quilting, a wedding, or a funeral without the aid of alcohol."[11] Cartwright adds his testimony to the prevalence of liquor-drinking on the frontier: "From my earliest recollection drinking drams, in family and social circles, was considered harmless and allowable socialities. It was almost universally the custom for preachers, in common with all others, to take drams; and if a man would not have it in his family, his harvest, his house-raisings, log-rollings, weddings, and so on, he was considered parsimonious and unsociable; and many, even professors of Christianity, would not help a man if he did not have spirits and treat the company."[12]

The difficulty of transporting grain to market over the rough frontier roads led the farmers to distill it into whisky. Whisky-making was very common in the West in the early days. In 1810 there were twenty-eight distilleries in Indiana territory, turning out 35,950 gallons[13] of whisky a year, to say nothing of the domestic distilleries where whisky was made for home consumption. It was the prevailing opinion on the frontier that whisky was a preventive of the diseases common to the frontier,[14] such as ague and fever, and great quantities were consumed, avowedly for that purpose. Distilled liquors were continually in use as tonics, even among those who were otherwise strictly temperate and abstemious.

A certain local preacher in Tennessee was accused

[11]Finley, "Autobiography," page 248.

[12]Cartwright, "Autobiography," page 212.

[13]Logan Esarey, "History of Indiana" (Indianapolis, 1915), Vol. I., page 179.

[14]Williams, "Methodism in Ohio," page 25.

of drinking too much at weddings. After much difficulty the circuit preacher succeeded in getting a committee of local preachers, who themselves were not dram drinkers, to try the accused brother. Testimony was given proving that he drank often and had been drunk on several occasions, and accordingly he was suspended until the next Quarterly Conference, when he was expelled from the Church.[15] Finley states that "I suffered no opportunity to pass that I did not improve in portraying the physical, social, and moral evils resulting from intemperance. . . . Frequently I would pledge whole congregations, standing upon their feet, to the temperance cause."[16]

Among the frontier preachers none were more famous for opposition to intemperance than James Axley. Axley and Peter Cartwright were close friends, they having been admitted into the Western Conference the same year, and were alike in their fearless denunciation of whatever they believed to be wrong. At one time he was located in Eastern Tennessee, a country known for its production of peach brandy and for the free use of it. In opposition to this practice he preached what became known as Axley's temperance sermon, which was famous in all that region for a third of a century. A passage from this sermon will serve to illustrate a type of frontier preaching, as well as the strong opposition of the Methodist Church toward intemperance:

Text: "Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil; the Lord reward him according to his works." (2 Tim. iv. 14.)

Paul was a traveling preacher, and a bishop, or a presiding elder at least; for he traveled extensively, and had much to do, not only in regulating the societies, but also in sending the preachers here, there, and yonder. He was zealous, laborious, would not build on another man's foundation, but formed new circuits,

[15]Cartwright, "Autobiography," pages 184-186.

[16]Finley, "Autobiography," page 250.

"where Christ was not named," so that from Jerusalem, and round unto Illyricum, he had fully preached the gospel of Christ. One new place that he visited was very wicked. . . . Sabbath-breaking, dancing, drinking, quarreling, fighting, swearing, etc., abounded; but the word of the Lord took effect; there was a powerful stir among the people, and many precious souls were converted. Among the subjects of that work there was a certain noted character, Alexander by name and a still-maker by trade; also Hymenæus, who was his partner in the business. Paul formed a new society, and appointed Brother Alexander class leader. There was a great change in the place; the people left off their drinking, swearing, fighting, horse-racing, dancing, and all their wicked practices. The stills were worked up into bells and stew-kettles, and thus applied to useful purposes. The settlement was orderly, the meetings were prosperous, and things went well among them for some time. But one year they had a pleasant spring; there was no late frost, and the peach crop hit exactly. I do suppose, my brethren, that such a crop of peaches was never known before. The old folks ate all they could eat; the children ate all they could eat; the pigs ate all they could eat; the sisters preserved all they could preserve; and still the limbs of the trees were bending and breaking. One Sunday when the brethren met for worship they gathered around outside the meetinghouse, and got to talking about their worldly business —as you know people sometimes do, and it is a mighty bad practice—and one said to another, "Brother, how is the peach crop with you this year?" "Oh," said he, "you never saw the like; they are rotting on the ground under the trees; I don't know what to do with them." "How would it do," said one, "to still them? The peaches will go to waste, but the brandy will keep; and it is very good in certain cases, if not used to excess." "I should like to know," said a cute brother, "how you could make brandy without stills?" "That's nothing," replied another, "for our class leader, Brother Alexander, is as good a still-maker as need be, and Brother Hymenæus is another, and, rather than see the fruit wasted, no doubt they will make us a few." The next thing heard on the subject was a hammering in the class leader's shop; and soon the stills in every brother's orchard were smoking and the liquid poison streaming. When one called on another, the bottle was brought out, with the remark, "I want you to taste my new brandy; I think it is pretty good." The guest after tasting once was urged to repeat, when, smacking his lips, he would reply: "Well, it's tolerable; but I wish you would come over and

taste mine; I think mine is a little better." So they tasted and tasted till many of them got about half drunk, and I don't know but three-quarters. Then the very devil was raised among them; the society was all in an uproar, and Paul was sent for to come and settle the difficulty. At first it was difficult to find sober, disinterested ones enough to try the guilty; but finally he got his committee formed; and the first one he brought to account was Alexander, who pleaded not guilty. He declared he had not tasted, bought, sold, or distilled a drop of brandy. "But," said Paul, "you made the stills, otherwise there would have been no liquor made; and if no liquor, no one would have been intoxicated." So they expelled him first, then Hymenæus next, and went on for compliment, till the society was relieved of all still-makers, distillers, dramsellers, and dram-drinkers, and peace was once more restored. Paul says: "Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: of whom is Hymenæus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme."[17]

Frontier Methodism had a very large social influence. Once a week the class leaders called their classes together, and there the New Englander and the Southerner, "the Yorker" and the Eastern Shore man, the Teuton and the Celt mingled on a platform of exact equality. The class leader was a neighbor and friend, and freely and frankly they discussed their religious convictions, their fears and hopes together. They spoke and sang and prayed, and thus sectional prejudices passed and there was born a distinct Western spirit and feeling. These class meetings were the smallest of the Methodist gatherings. Then there were the preaching services when the circuit preacher reached the neighborhood and greater numbers gathered together; and the quarterly meetings, when sometimes as many as two thousand people gathered to spend two days in religious and social intercourse. Still more extensive was the mingling, when in the autumn the camp meetings began. Nearly every circuit planned such a gathering, when

[17]Finley, "Sketches of Western Methodism," pages 237, 238.

people from far and near came, lived in booths and tents, and spent their time in delightful mingling together. Methodism on the frontier proved a wonderful "social chemistry." Indeed, no other influence on the frontier had larger social possibilities.[18]

Another aspect of the social influence of frontier Methodism deserves mention. The preacher lived in the homes of the people. He passed the night in the home where he preached, or in the neighborhood. Entirely aside from the religious influences which emanated from such visits were his example as a studious man and a gentleman. The casual conversations carried on at the table with the elder members of the household; the reading and praying about the open fireplace just before retiring and just after rising; the books he brought into the log cabins—all these were fruitful sources of influencing especially the younger members of the household.

The early Methodist circuit riders were not only preachers, but they were likewise book agents. The General Conference of 1800 passed this rule: "It shall be the duty of every presiding elder, where no book steward is appointed, to see that his district be fully supplied with books. He is to order such books as are wanted, and to give directions to whose care the same are to be sent; and he is to take the oversight of all our books sent into his district, and to account to the superintendent for the same." It stated further: "It shall be the duty of every preacher who has the charge of a circuit to see that his circuit be duly supplied with books, and to take charge of all the books which are sent to him, from time to time, or which may be in his

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[18]Rev. T. M. Eddy, "Influence of Methodism upon the Civilization and Education of the West," *Methodist Review*, April, 1857, pages 280-296.

circuit; and he is to account with the presiding elder for the same."[19] These books, of course, were mainly publications of the Methodist Book Concern, but they were books on a variety of subjects, such as biography, history, travel, philosophy, and ethics, as well as the Methodist "stand-bys," the works of Wesley, Fletcher, Clarke, Bangs, and Lee. At this early date there were no Methodist journals. The *Western Christian Advocate* began publication in 1834, while the *Methodist Magazine* did not begin operation until 1818.

There were few cabins on the frontier where reading matter was abundant. The cares of pioneer life and its hardships had largely destroyed the opportunity for cultural pursuits and there was very little demand for books. But the Methodist preachers resolutely carried books to the people and in most cases actually crowded them upon the settler. Many a frontier cabin would have been without a single book if some circuit rider had not insisted that books be purchased. This was a part of the preacher's duty, and most of the preachers were faithful in its performance. Among old collections of books, volumes may still be found bearing upon the flyleaf "Bought of Rev. ————, May ——, 18——, Price $———." The books were read in the household, then were loaned to the neighbors until they made the circuit of the settlement.

The Western preachers were deeply interested in education, even though they themselves were generally unschooled men. As a testimony to this interest was Bethel Academy, erected in Jessamine County, Kentucky, in the latter years of the eighteenth century. It was the second institution of learning founded by Methodists in the United States. The Academy, built entirely by subscriptions obtained from the Western

[19]Emory, "History of the Discipline," pages 258, 259.

circuits, originated with Bishop Asbury and Francis Poythress and certain leading laymen of the region. The building erected was eighty by forty, and three stories high. It was designed to serve as a dormitory as well as for recitations and chapel. The Kentucky legislature thought well enough of the project to grant the institution six thousand acres of land. The people were generous to the limit of their ability, and for a time the school attracted numbers of students; but it proved poorly located, and there were few to patronize the school. The frontier was extremely poor, and finally it was deemed best to abandon it. It was not long, however, until Bethel Academy was followed by numerous successors, and in the first half of the nineteenth century many colleges and academies sprang up, founded by Methodist Conferences, in the States which once composed the Western Conference.[20]

Another achievement of Methodism on the frontier was that it trained laymen in the art of public speaking and public leadership as perhaps nothing else was able to do. The local preachers and class leaders were chosen from among the more talented and better prepared of the members of the Church, and thus they received training for general political and social leadership. It was no mere accident that a local preacher, Edward Tiffin, became the first governor of the State of Ohio, and it is not strange that Peter Cartwright developed political ambitions.

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[20]Finley, "Sketches of Western Methodism," pages 42, 43.

PART II.
THE JOURNAL.

Journal of the Western Annual Conference, held at Bethel Chapel Cumberland, October 1st 1802.

Members of the Conference.

Francis Asbury, Bishop.
Nicholas Southern,* Preachers Fund
William McKendree $2
John Watson, 2
William Burk, 2
Thomas Wilkerson, 2
Henry Smith, 2
John Sale, 2
John Page, 2
Lewis Garrett, 2
John A. Granade,* $16
Hezekiah Harrison, $2
Tobias Gibson, deposed with
Samuel Bowhet, 2
Ezekiel Bustine,* 2
Benjamin Lakin, 2
Benjamin Young,*
Moses Floyed, 2
Lewthes Taylor,* for Jun Norther 50
Lawnes Blackman,* 50
11 00
Ralph Lotspeich,* 16 00
$27 00

Those Marked thus,* were not present.
Who are received on Trial Anno: Jacob Young, William Burch field, Ralph Lotspeich, Jesse Walkes,* James Gwin,* Leven Dewey.*
Those Marked thus,* were men with families who after a few weeks, engage their Service for this Year, professing, at the same time, an intention to continue their Service, provided Circumstances will permit.

The Conference, proceeded to Elect. William McKendree, William Burk. John Page, and John Watson, A Committe, of Claims.
Who are ordained Deacons at this Conference: Anno: Jesse Walkes, Samuel Mason. Manoah Lasley. Moses Floyed. Elliot Jones, Benjamin Wilson, John Jarratt, Henry Jones.
The Conference proceeded to take into Consideration, the Critical, deranged State of unaccountability, which Francis Boyttreys, at present is in. and Judge it best for the Safety of the Connection, that his Name shall be left off, of the general Minutes. But at the same time are tenderly Concerned for his Support and welfare -- and therefore Resolve. that his Name shall Stand on our Journal: and that he shall have a proportionable Claim, on the Western Conference for his Support; and further it is our Opinion that his Name should Should be punctuated on the Journals of this Conference, for the Same purpose.

it is voted that a Committe, Shall be appointed to waite on the Next Assembly at Frankfort in Kentucky, to attend to the Incorporation of Bethel Academy in S.d State, and that they are directed to act upon their own Judgement, and do the best they Can.

William McKendree, William Burk, Lewis Garrett, and Samuel Dorsett, appointed, to be the Committe.

On Motion Resolved, that John Page, Thomas Wilkerson, and Green Hill, Shall form a Committe, to Petition the Next General Assembly of Tennessee, to grant Liberty to the Trustees, of the Methodist, Meeting House, in Nashville, to Sell the said house, and appropriate the money to the use of the Methodist Church; The Conference proceeded to Examine the deficencies of the Preachers,

Hezekiah Harriman,	$ 34	Benjamin Lakin	$ 51 96
William Burk,	81 75	Tobias Gibson,	32 00
Francis Boythrefs,	80 00		83 96
	165 79		165 79
			249 75

Report of the Committe of Claims.

Money on hand from the Charter Fund, $ 90 00

Paid by the preacher to their fund, 27 00

117 00

Distributed as Follows.

To Frances Asbury,	$ 20 00	Benjamin Lakin,	$ 19 00
Nicholas Snethen,	13 00	Tobias Gibson,	12 00
William Burk,	31 00	Hezekiah Harriman,	1 00
Francis Boythrefs,	20 00	To the Mitionary,	1 00
	$ 84		33 00
			84 00
			$ 117 00

It appears to this Committe, that William McKendree, hasen the Cource of this Year, paid to Frances Boythrefs Acct $ 13 69. and Lieged, and applied, $ 11 more, to the Same purpose.

By Collection among the Travelling preachers, Setting in Conference

	895 00
To Tobias Gibson,	$ 15 00
Myles Floyd Mitionary	20 00
	35 00.

Inquir when and where, Shall our Next Conference be held

Answ at Mount Gerizim, in Kentucky, October 2.d 1803

William Burk Secretary

Francis Asbury.

I.

JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN ANNUAL CONFERENCE, HELD AT BETHEL ACADEMY, KENTUCKY, OCTOBER 6, 1800.[1]

Members present, Francis Asbury, Richard Whatcoat, William McKendree, William Burk, John Sale, Hezekiah Harriman, Benjamin Lakin; readmitted, Lewis Hunt, Thomas Allin, Jeremiah Lawson.

Who are admitted on trial? William Marsh, Benjamin Young.

What local preachers are elected to the office of deacons? Ansr. Richard Tilton, Edward Talbot, William Thompson, Isaac Pavey, Rubin Hunt, Elisha Bowman, Jacob James, A. Blackman, Jonathan Kidwell, Benjamin Northcot, Joshu West, James Garner, Jesse Griffith, Philip Taylor.

Who have located this year? Ansr. Thomas Allin.

Benjamin Lakin, Jeremiah Lawson, Lewis Hunt, and Thomas Allin, Ordained to the Office of Deacons.

The Preachers' deficiencies for Six Months are as follows:

	£	S	D
William Burk	2	17	6
John Sale	6	16	6
Jeremiah Lawson	5	15	7
Thomas Allin 11		2	0
	—	—	–
	£26	11	7

	£	S	D
Hezekiah Harriman..	7	19	0
Lewis Hunt	0	18	2
Benjamin Young	3	5	6
	—	—	–
	12	2	8
	26	11	7
	—	—	–
	£38	14	3

Conference Adjourned, to meet again at Ebenezer, State of Tennessee, October 1, 1801. Test.

WILLIAM BURK, Secretary. F. ASBURY.

NOTE 1.—Bishop Asbury crossed over the mountains from Virginia to attend this session of the Western Conference. He left his horse and carriage east of the mountains and borrowed a

horse to ride to Kentucky. On September 27 he speaks of climbing the steeps of Clinch and sleeping that night on the Cumberland. On October 2 they crossed the Kentucky River, and on October 3 reached Bethel, where the Conference was to be held. The minutes are dated the 6th, but Asbury speaks of Bishop Whatcoat and William McKendree preaching at Bethel on the 3d. Of Bethel Academy he has the following to say: "Here is Bethel —Cokesbury in miniature, eighty by thirty feet, three stories, with a high roof, and finished below. Now we want a fund and an income of 300 per year to carry it on—without which it will be useless. But it is too distant from public places, its being surrounded by the river Kentucky in part, we now find to be no benefit; thus all our excellencies are turned to defects. Perhaps Brother Poythress and myself were as much overseen with this place as Dr. Coke was with the seat of Cokesbury. But all is right that works right, and all is wrong that works wrong, and we must be blamed by men of slender sense for consequences impossible to foresee—for other people's misconduct. Sabbath day, Monday, and Tuesday we were shut up in Bethel with the traveling and local ministry and the trustees that could be called together. We ordained fourteen or fifteen local and traveling deacons. It was thought expedient to carry the first design of education into execution, and that we should employ a man of sterling qualifications, to be chosen by and under the direction of a select number of trustees, and others who should obligate themselves to see him paid, and take the profits, if any, arising from the establishment. Dr. Jennings was thought of, talked of, and written to." (Asbury's Journal, Vol. II., page 394.)

The appointments to the Western circuits for this year, as given in the General Minutes, are as follows:

KENTUCKY DISTRICT. *William McKendree, P. Elder.*

Sciota and Miami, Henry Smith.
Limestone, Benjamin Lakin.
Hinkstone and Lexington, William Burke, Thomas Wilkerson, Lewis Hunt.
Danville, Hezekiah Harriman.
Salt River and Shelby, John Sale, William Marsh.
Cumberland, John Page, Benj. Young.
Green, Samuel Douthet, Ezekiel Burdine.
Holston and Russell, James Hunter.
New-River, John Watson.

(Minutes of Conferences, Vol. I., 1773-1828, page 99.)

II.

JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN ANNUAL CONFERENCE, HELD AT EBENEZER, STATE OF TENNESSEE, OCTOBER 1, 1801.[a]

MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE.

Francis Asbury, Bishop,
William McKendree,
James Douthit,
Thomas Wilkerson,
John Watson,
James Hunter,
Samuel Douthit,
John Page,
Ezekiel Burdine,
Nicholas Snethen,
Lewis Garrett,
William Burk,*
John Sale,*
Hezekiah Harriman,*
Benjamin Lakin,*
Henry Smith,*
Benjamin Young,*
Lewis Hunt,*
Tobias Gibson.*

Those marked thus * were not present.

John A. Granade came recommended for admition on Trial. It is the Judgement of the Conference, that he has a certain hardness and stubbornness in his temper, which has produced, some improper Conclusions; but as he has given some hopeful assureance, that in future, he will be more teachable, and as his piety, and zeale, is not doubted, the Conference, is of opinion that he may be admitted, after receiving a Special Council from the Bishop.

Whereas Francis Poythress, appears to be incapable of taking a Station, it is agreed too by the Conference, that his name shall stand on the Minutes among the Elders; and that he shall have a porpotionable clame on the Conference, for his support.

William McKendree, Thomas Wilkerson, John Page,

and John Watson are appointed a committee, to adjust the preachers' finances.

Quest: What Local preachers are ordained to the office of Deacons? Ansr. James Landrum, Jesse Thomas, and William Duzan.

It is the desire of this Conference, that the Presiding Elders, take it upon themselves to insist on the preachers in the Western Districts, to attend the next Yearly Conference.

Paid to the Preachers' Fund the following Sums:

William McKendree, ...	$ 2 00	William Burk,*	$ 2 00
Thos. Wilkerson, for 6 months, ...	1 00	John Sale,*	2 00
		Benjamin Lakin,*	2 00
James Hunter, ...	2 00	Henry Smith,*	2 00
Samuel Douthit, ...	2 00	Lewis Hunt,*	2 00
John Page, ...	2 00		
Ezekiel Burdine, ...	2 67		$10 00
John Watson, ...	2 00		$14 67
Lewis Garrett, for 6 months, ...	1 00		$24 67
	$14 67		

Those marked * failed to send thire money to the fund, but being Claiments on the Charter fund, the Committee Judge it proper to deduct their part.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CLAIMES.

Draft on the Charter Fund for 1799....		$80..	
Claiments for this year:			
William Burk, ...	$ 53 00	 34	portion received.
John Page, ...	19 00	 11	
Lewis Hunt, ...	39 67	 26	
John Watson, ...	10 00	 06	
	$121 67	77	
		Remds. 3	

Draft on the Charter Fund for 1800...$80 00
Claiments for this year:

			Propotion
William Burk,	$111 33		$ 34 00
Lewis Hunt,	55 00		18 00
Henry Smith,	49 90		16 00
John Sale,	30 67		11 00
	$246 90		$ 79 00
		Remainder	1 00
			$ 80 00

Draft on the Charter Fund for 1801....$100
Claiments for this year, drawn for 18 months:

			Proportion
William McKendree,	$ 88 50		$ 22 88
Thomas Wilkerson,	20 00		5 20
John Watson,	3 00		98
Samuel Douthit,	8 00		2 08
John Page,	22 33		5 72
Ezekiel Burdine,	8 00		2 08
William Burk,	35 00		19 10
John Sale,	47 50		12 22
Benjamin Lakin,	65 00		16 90
Henry Smith,	17 00		4 42
William Marsh,	21 00		5 46
Lewis Hunt,	69 00		17 94
	$404 33		$114 98
	114 98		
	$289 35	Remaining deficiency.	

Drafts on the Charter Fund.		*Disbursements.*		
For 1799,	$ 80 00	1799	To sundry Claiments,	$ 77 00
1800,	80 00	1800	To Do Do	79 00
1801,	110 00	1801	To Do Do	114 98
Preachers fund,	24 67		To Francis Asbury,	10 00
	$294 67		To Francis Poythress,	13 69
				$294 67

Where shall the next Conference be held? Ansr. Cumberland. The arguments in favor of Cumberland, and which carried the Conference, these were advanced by John Page, and are as follows, 1st. The union, and friendly State of affairs, between the Methodist and Prisbeterians, 2ly. There never was A Conference held there. Conference was voted to Cumberland, by a majority of two thirds. It is the opinion of this Conference, that there should be three perminent places for holding Conference, in the western destrict, (viz) Bethel in Kentucky, Bethel in Cumberland, and Ebenezer on Nolechucky.

WILLIAM BURK, Secretary. F. ASBURY.

NOTE 2.—The Ebenezer referred to in the Minutes as the seat of the Conference of 1801 was in East Tennessee, on the Nollichucky River, in Greene County. (Hoss, "Life of McKendree.").

Bishop Asbury came to the Conference complaining "My bowels, and my poor horse's back are in bad order." John Watson, one of the Western preachers, was with him when he crossed the Holston and Watauga on September 28.

Of the Conference the bishop says: "Our brethren in Kentucky did not attend: they pleaded the greatness of the work of God. Twelve of us sat in conference three days; and we had not an unpleasant countenance, nor did we hear an angry word. . . . N. Snethen gave us two sermons. We ordained on Friday, Saturday, and Sabbath day, and upon each day I improved a little on the duties of ministers. On the Lord's day we assembled in the woods, and made a large congregation. . . . On Friday and Saturday evenings, and on Sabbath morning there was the noise of praise and shouting in the meetinghouse: it is thought there are twenty-five souls who have found the Lord; they are chiefly the children of Methodists—the children of faith and of many prayers." (Asbury's Journal, Vol. III., page 38.)

The appointments for the Western Conference for this year (1801) are given in the General Minutes as follows:

KENTUCKY DISTRICT. *William McKendree, P. Elder.*

Natchez, Tobias Gibson.

Scioto and Miami, Benjamin Young, Elisha W. Bowman.

Limestone, Henry Smith, Lewis Hunt.
Hinkstone, Benjamin Lakin.
Lexington, Wm. Burke, Lewis Garrett.
Danville, John Sale, William Marsh.
Salt River, Hezekiah Harriman.
Shelby, Gabriel Woodfill.
Cumberland, John Page, Thos. Wilkerson.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE. *John Watson, P. Elder*

Green, Moses Floyd, John A. Grenade.
Holston, Samuel Douthet.
Russell, James Hunter, six months, L. Blackman.
New-River, Ezekiel Burdine, Louther Taylor.
(Minutes, Vol. I., page 104.)

III.

JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN ANNUAL CONFERENCE, HELD AT BETHEL CHAPEL, CUMBERLAND, OCTOBER 1, 1802.[3]

MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE.

Francis Asbury, Bishop.
Nicholas Snethen,*

Preachers' Fund.

William McKendree,	$ 2
John Watson,	2
William Burk,	2
Thomas Wilkerson,	2
Henry Smith,	2
John Sale,	2
John Page,	2
Lewis Garrett,	2
John A. Granade,*	..
	$16

Hezekiah Harriman,	$ 2
Tobias Gibson,	dispenced with
Samuel Douthit,	2
Ezekiel Burdine,*	2
Benjamin Lakin,	2
Benjamin Young,*	....
Moses Floyed,	2
Louther Taylor,* for six months	50
Lawner Blackman,* Do.	50
	$11 00
Ralph Lotspiech,*	16 00
	$27 00

Those marked thus * were not present.

Who are received on trial? Ansr. Jacob Young, William Crutchfield, Ralph Lotspiech, Jesse Walker,* James Gwin,* Leven Edney.*

Those marked thus * were men with families, who, after a few weeks, engage their service for this year, professing, at the same time, an intention to continue their service, provided circumstances will permit.

The Conference proceeded to elect William McKendree, William Burk, John Page, and John Watson, A Committe of Claimes.

Who are ordained Deacons at this Conference? Ansr. Jesse Walker, Samuel Mason, Manoah Lasley, Moses

Floyed, Elliot Jones, Benjamin Whitson, John Jarratt, Henry Jones.

The Conference proceeded to take into Consideration the critical, deranged state of unaccountability which Francis Poythress at present is in, and judge it best, for the safety of the Connection, that his name shall be left off of the General Minutes. But at the same time are tenderly concerned for his support and welfare,—and therefore Resolve, that his name shall stand on our Journal; and that he shall have a proportionable Claim on the Western Conference for his support; and further it is our opinion, that his name should be perpetuated on the Journals of this Conference, for the same purpose.

It is voted that a Committe shall be appointed to waite on the next Assembly, at Frankfort, in Kentucky, to attend to the business of Bethel Academy, in s^{d} State, and that they are directed to act upon their own judgement; and do the best they can. William McKendree, William Burk, Lewis Garrett, and Samuel Douthit appointed, to be the Committe.

On motion Resolved, that John Page, Thomas Wilkerson, and Green Hill, shall form a Committe, to petition the next General Assembly, of Tennessee; to grant liberty to the Trustees of the Methodist Meeting House, in Nashville, to sell the said house, and appropriate the money to the use of the Methodist Church.

The Conference proceeded to examine the deficiencies of the preachers:

Hezekiah Harriman, ...	$ 4 04	Benjamin Lakin, ...	$ 51 96
William Burk, ...	81 75	Tobias Gibson, ...	32 00
Francis Poythress, ...	80 00		
	$165 79		$ 83 96
			165 79
			$249 75

REPORT OF THE COMMITTE OF CLAIMS.

Money on hand, from the Charter Fund,	$ 90 00
Paid by the preachers to their fund,	27 00
	$117 00

Distributed as Follows:

To Francis Asbury,	$20 00	Benjamin Lakin,	$ 19 00
Nicholas Snethen,	13 00	Tobias Gibson,	12 00
William Burk,	31 00	Hezekiah Harriman,	1 00
Francis Poythress,	20 00	To the Mitionary,	1 00
	$84 00		$ 33 00
			84 00
			$117 00

It appears to this Committe, that William McKendree has, in the course of this year, paid Francis Poythress's acct., $13.69, and beged, and applied, $11 more, to the same purpose.

By Collection among the Travilling preachers, sitting in Conference		$35 00
To Tobias Gibson,	$15 00	
Moses Floyd, Mitionary,	20 00	
		$35 00

Quest. When and where shall our next Conference be held? Ansr. At Mount Gerizim, in Kentucky, October 2nd, 1803.

WILLIAM BURK, Secretary. FRANCIS ASBURY.

NOTE 3.—Bishop Asbury attended the session of the Western Conference in 1802, coming directly from Virginia. He came into Tennessee on September 13, and on the 16th attended a camp meeting which continued four days. He states that there were about 1,500 souls present. Here, he continues, "the heat, the restless nights, the water, or, it may be, all these combined made me sick indeed." On Sunday, the 19th, he is at Ebenezer, where the house was unable to hold the people and so he preaches from a stand in the woods. The next day he is sick

and unwell. On the 22d we find him on the banks of the French Broad and preaching as he goes. On October 2 he finally reached the seat of the Conference, which he found in session. The Bishop, however, was too sick to preach, so two Presbyterian ministers supply the lack, "which they did with great fervency and fidelity." William McKendree was also called upon to assist in examining and stationing the preachers, though the Bishop was able to ordain. (Asbury's Journal, Vol. III., pages 78-81.)

The appointments for the Western Conference, 1802, were as follows:

HOLSTON DISTRICT. *John Watson, P. Elder.*

Holston, Thomas Milligan, John A. Grenade.
Nollichuckie, Henry Smith.
French Broad, Louther Taylor.
Powell's Valley, Benjamin Young.
Clinch, Moses Black.
New River, Learner Blackman.

KENTUCKY DISTRICT. *William McKendree, P. Elder.*

Limestone, William Burke.
Miami, Elisha W. Bowman.
Scioto, John Sale, Stephen Timmons.
Hinkstone, Hezekiah Harriman.
Lexington, Samuel Douthet.
Danville, Lewis Garrett, William Crutchfield.
Salt River and Shelby, Benjamin Lakin, Ralph Lotspeich.

CUMBERLAND DISTRICT. *John Page, P. Elder.*

Nashville, Thomas Wilkerson, Levin Edney.
Red River, Jesse Walker.
Barren, James Gwinn, Jacob Young.
Natchez, Moses Floyd, Tobias Gibson.

IV.

JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN ANNUAL CONFERENCE, HELD AT MOUNT GERRIZIM, STATE OF KENTUCKY, OCTOBER 2, 1803.[4]

MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE.

Francis Asbury, Bishop.	John Sale,
William McKendree,	Hezekiah Harriman,
John Watson,	Samuel Douthit,
William Burk,	Louther Taylor,
Lewis Garrett,	Lawner Blackman,
Thomas Wilkerson,	Thomas Milligan,*
Moses Floyed,*	Moses Black,*
Benjamin Young,	Elisha Bowman,
	John A. Granade,

Those marked thus * were not present.

On motion resolved that William McKendree, John Watson, Thomas Wilkerson, Lewis Garrett, and John Sale be appointed a Committee of Claims.

Quest. 1. Who are admitted on Trial? Ansr. 1. Adjet McGuire, who travelled the Limestone Circuit nearly 12 months past, was well received, and useful; and came recommended according to rule.

2. William Pattison, who has travilled 3 months on the Miami Circuit. A man of but little education and small abilities, but is said to be pious, zealous, and useful, and came well recommended.

3. Anthony Houston, a man of tolerable gifts, has been about 13 months in the profession of religion, and travilled 3 months in Salt-river and Shelby Circuits, was well received and properly recommended.

4. Joseph Oglesby, who has been in profession of religion about two years, and has preached as a local preacher, about one year. A man of tolerable gifts, and came well recommended.

5. Abraham Amos, who has been in profession of religion two and a half years, of small gifts, and elit-erate; but was useful and much esteemed in his neighbourhood. He was admitted, as a local Speaker, at the last Quarterly Meeting in Lexington Circuit, but at that time was not proposed to them as having any intention to travil, after which he attended several Quarterly Meetings, with the Elder, and was thought to be useful, the Conference admitted him into the Travilling Connection upon the Judgment of some of the Travilling preachers, who think he would have been recommended, if an application had been made.

6. John McClure, has been in the profession of religion about two years, and is judged to be a pious man, he has travilled about nine months in the Cumberland District. But brought no recommendation, from the Quarterly Meeting. It was thought to be the fault of the Presiding Elder, and therefore he was received upon the persuation, that he could have obtained a recommendation, if application had been made.

7. Fletcher Sulivan, who came under the same circumstances, of John McClure, and is received upon the same principles.

8. John Johnson, from the Holston Destrict, not present, but was recommended and received.

Quest. 2nd. Who remain on Trial? Ansr. 1st. Jacob Young, who is spoken well of as a man of piety, and improvible gifts. 2nd. William Crutchfield, is recommended as a pious and gifted man. 3rd. Ralph Lotspiech, a man some what peculiar, but is thought to improve, and amend. 4th. Jesse Walker, not present, but is spoken well of as a preacher, and Christian. 5. Leaven Edney, not present, but is said to possess grace and gifts, and has been useful.

Quest. 3rd. Who are received into full Connection? Ansr. 1. Elisha Bowman, who is well reported of, as

haveing been indefatagable in his labours and useful. He has been three years in deacon's orders, and now admitted to the Eldership. 2nd. John A. Granade, it was suspected that his temporal business in Cumberland was not satisfactorally adjusted. Bro. Granade proposes to arbratate the business, and thereupon he was received and admitted to the office of a Deacon. 3rd. Benjamin Young, according to the report of John Sale, and others, Stands Charged of haveing said, that he composed a certain song, when in truth he did not;—that he had the misfortain to get his horses thye broke, when it was not so; and that he has baptized, contrary to the order of the M. E. Church; after B. Young's reply, it was the opinion of the Conference, that the reports might mistake what said Young did say respecting the two first charges, and that his acknowledgement, was sufficient for the last. After a plain talke, and Hopeful promises, he was admitted into Connection, and ordained to the office of Deacon;—and in consideration of his being appointed a Mitionary to the Illinoies, he was ordained to the office of an Elder.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTE OF CLAIMS.

We the Committee, judge it proper under the present circumstances; to take the whole of our brethren's, deficiencies into consideration, and considering them as suffering Brethren, we judge it proper to make them equal in their loosing; in order to which, we have examined their accounts, and now present you with the following statement; expecting, at the same time that the Conference, will inspect, correct, or ratify, as they may judge proper. William Burk's account stands thus:

Family expenses,	$44 12
Travilling expenses,	24 63
Deficient in salary,	24 50
	$93 25

We Judge that it is right for Bro. Burk to pay board for his wife, and that the people, if they please, may pay the board for

him, but that he has no Just demand on the Conference for it. His deficiencies is therefore only, $49.13.

Benjamin Lakin's account, $28.95.

But it appears that the Circuit maintained Bro. Lakin's wife and her Beast; gratis. It is therefore our opinion, that it is ungenerous in him to bring a demand on Conference; and seeing there are others more needy, it is our judgement that he ought not to have anything.

Jesse Walker's account, $165.37.

And it appears to us, that $76 are for children. It is our judgement that the demand for children be deducted, and then he is deficient $89.37.

Benjamin Young's is $28.89, but $4.75 is for Doctor's bills, which we judge to be an improper charge therefore allow him but $24.14.

Francis Poythress stands on our Journal as a claiment for $80.00. But it appears that he is able to support himself, and does not expect or wish his support from us. We therefore judge, he should not be considered as dependant on us.

Moneys on hand to make up deficiencies,—

From the Preachers Fund, ...	$ 29	00	
From the Charter Fund,	100	00	
From Holston Circuit, .	4	31	
From Nashville Circuit,	2	00	
From Scioto Circuit,...	17	78	
	$153	09	

Collected for those who had lost their horses.

By William McKendree,.	$78	65
By Lewis Garrett, ...	3	00
	$81	65

Collected for Mitionaries,

By William Burk, ...	$19 00

	Deficiencies.	Proportion.
Francis Asbury,.	$ 20 36	$ 10 00
William Burk,..	49 13	21 12
Jesse Walker,...	89 37	61 56
Benjamin Lakin,	28 95	00 95
Benjamin Young,	24 14	10 14
Louther Taylor,.	22 50	8 50
Elisha Bowman,.	22 50	8 50
Ralph Lotspiech,	13 50	00 00
Jacob Young,...	37 00	23 00
John A. Granade,	12 00	00 00
John McClure, as a gift		9 00
	$319 45	$153 09

To those who had lost or needed horses,

William Burk,....	$25 00
Benjamin Young,..	25 00
Ralph Lotspiech,..	18 00
Adjet McGuire,....	13 65

To Mitionaries,

Benjamin Young,...	$ 9 00
Hezekiah Harriman, ...	00 00
and Abraham Amos, ...	10 00
	$81 65 $19 00

This Conference voluntarily relinquish their demand on the next Conference for their deficiencies, and resolve that what money's they may have shall be applied to the most needy preachers, at the discretion of the next Conference.

Ezekiel Burdine made application by letter to this Conference for a location, but the circumstances of his Marriage, and removal from this, to the South Carolina Conference, make it necessary, in our judgement, to refer his case to that Conference, where all the parts may be fully considered; and Bishop Asbury is therefore requested to take the papers, which respect the case of Ezekiel Burdine.

At our last Conference, Stephen Timmons was appointed Supernumerary to Scioto Circuit. This year he asks for a partial Station, but by his letter, and Elisha Bowman's testimony it appears he will take no Station but in Scioto Circuit, and it's judged improper to give him that Station. The Conference is of opinion that it would be most advisable to give him a location, Resolved accordingly. Lawner Blackman and Louther Taylor, in consequence of being removed from the Philadelphia Conference to the Western Conference, lack some fiew months of a legal probation for the Elder's office. The Conference is of opinion, that as their names have Stood among the Deacons on the Minutes for two years; and as their Stations required the office of Elders; that they should stand their election; they are accordingly elected.

Conference, Adjourned; to meet again on the 2nd day of October, 1803.* At Mount Garrizim State of Kentucky.

Signed in and by order of the Conference.

William Burk, Secretary. Francis Asbury.

*The date here intended is evidently 1804.

NOTE 4.—The seat of the Western Conference in 1803 was Mount Gerizim, Harrison County, Ky. Bishop Asbury came from Ohio, having reached that State on September 8, at Steubenville. Here he was to have preached in the courthouse; but as it would not hold the people, they went to "a Presbyterian tent." At Charlestown he preached in the courthouse, and on the 12th reached Zanesville. Passing through New Lancaster and Pickaway Plains, he finally reached Chillicothe, where he was entertained at the home of Governor Tiffin. Marietta at that time contained 1,000 houses and Cincinnati as many, while Hamilton contained 500. Coming into Kentucky, he crossed Bourbon County, and on Thursday, the 30th of September, he reached the seat of the Conference. (Journal, Vol. III., pages 114-117; McFerrin, "Methodism in Tennessee," Vol. I., page 419.)

Speaking of the Conference, Asbury in his Journal says: "We entered fully upon our conference work; but I had to preach nevertheless. We had preaching every day; and the people continued singing and praying, night and day, with little intermission. On Wednesday the meeting closed. We hope there were twenty souls converted to God, besides five who are reported to have been converted at a family meeting. Our conference ended on Thursday the sixth. I had taken cold, but rode twelve miles to Smith's, and was driven by illness to bed." (Journal, Vol. III., page 117.)

Accompanied by four of the preachers, Asbury proceeds southward into Tennessee. Of his journey into the West this year, Bishop Asbury says, in the entry for October 14: "What a road we have passed! Certainly the worst on the whole continent, even in the best weather; yet, bad as it was, there were four or five hundred crossing the rude hills whilst we were: I was powerfully struck with the consideration, that there were at least as many thousand emigrants annually from east to west: we must take care to send preachers after these people. We have made one thousand and eighty miles from Philadelphia; and now, what a detail of sufferings might I give, fatiguing to me to write, and perhaps to my friends to read! A man who is well mounted, will scorn to complain of the roads, when he sees men, women, and children, almost naked, paddling bare-foot and bare-legged along, or laboring up the rocky hills, whilst those who are best off have only a horse for two or three children to ride at once. If these adventurers have little or nothing to eat, it is no extraordinary circumstance; and not uncommon, to encamp in the wet woods after night—in the mountains it does not rain, but pours. I too

have my sufferings, perhaps peculiar to myself; pain, and temptation; the one of the body, and the other of the spirit; no room to retire to—that in which you sit common to all, crowded with women and children, the fire occupied by cooking, much and long loved solitude not to be found, unless you choose to run out into the rain, in the woods: six months in the year I have had, for thirty-two years, occasionally, to submit to what will never be agreeable to me; but the people, it must be confessed, are amongst the kindest souls in the world. But kindness will not make a crowded log cabin, twelve feet by ten, agreeable; without are cold and rain; and within, six adults, and as many children, one of which is all motion; the dogs, too, must sometimes be admitted. On Saturday, at Felix Ernest's, I found that amongst my other trials, I had taken the itch; and, considering the filthy houses and filthy beds I have met with, in coming from the Kentucky Conference, it is perhaps strange that I have not caught it twenty times: I do not see that there is any security against it, but by sleeping in a brimstone shirt: poor bishop! But we must bear it for the elect's sake. I have written some letters to our local brethren, and read the book of Daniel since I have been in this house." (Journal, Vol. III., pages 118, 119.)

The appointments for 1803 were as follows:

HOLSTON DISTRICT. *John Watson, P. Elder.*

Holston, Thomas Milligan's station was changed last year to Clinch.
Nollichuckie, Samuel Douthet.
French Broad, John Johnson.
New River, Elisha W. Bowman.
Clinch, Joab Watson.
Powell's Valley, Moses Black.
Wilderness, Jacob Young.

CUMBERLAND DISTRICT. *Lewis Garrett, P. Elder.*

Nashville, Levin Edney.
Red River, Ralph Lotspiech.
Barren, Anthony Houston.
Wayne, William Crutchfield.
Livingston, Jesse Walker.
Natchez, Moses Floyd, H. Harriman, A. Amos, Tobias Gibson, supernumeraries.
Illinois, Benjamin Young, missionary.

KENTUCKY DISTRICT. *William M'Kendree, P. Elder.*

Limestone, Louther Taylor, John McClure.
Hinkstone, John A. Grenade.
Lexington, Learner Blackman.
Lexingtontown, Thomas Wilkerson.
Danville, Benjamin Lakin.
Salt River, Adjet McGuire.
Shelby, Fletcher Sullivan.

OHIO DISTRICT. *William Burke, P. Elder.*

Muskingum and Little Kanawha, George Askin.
Hockhockin, James Quinn, John Meek.
Scioto, William Pattison, Nathan Barnes.
Miami, John Sale, Joseph Oglesby.
Guyandott, Asa Shinn.

V.

JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN ANNUAL CONFERENCE, HELD AT MOUNT GERRIZIM, KENTUCKY, OCTOBER 2ND, 1804.[5]

Neither of the bishops were present, being prevented by affliction; and as no direction came to hand, the Conference proceeded to choose by ballot a presedant; William McKendree was accordingly chosen, and took the chare.

MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE.

William McKendree,	Louther Taylor,
John Watson,	Lawner Blackman,
William Burk,	Elisha Bowman,*
Lewis Garrett,	Benjamin Young,*
Thomas Wilkerson,	John A. Granade,*
John Sale,	Jacob Young,
Benjamin Lakin,	William Crutchfield,
Hezekiah Harriman,	Ralph Lotspiech,
	Jesse Walker.*

Those marked thus * were not present.

The Conference proceeded to elect Lewis Garrett, John Watson, John Sale, Lawner Blackman, and William Burk, as a Committe of Appropriations.

The Conference proceeded to admit on trial the following persons:

1st. From the Holston Destrict: William Ellington, born in the State of Georgia, has been in the profession of religion about two years, and has travelled eleven months, and came recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Clinch Circuit.

2nd. From the Kentucky Destrict: Samuel Parker, a native of New Jersey, born September 10th, 1773, has been in the profession of religion 14 years, exercised as a local preacher for about two years, and has

travilled a Circuit 9 months, he came recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Shelby Circuit.

3rd. Joshua Oglesby has travilled 9 months, and came recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Danville Circuit, but not being present we could obtain no further information.

4th. William Thompson, a native of Maryland, born the 2nd of November, 1767, has been in the profession of religion 15 years, has laboured as a local preacher for several years, and ordained to the office of Deacon 1800, and has travilled Danville Circuit 9 months, and obtained a recommendation from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of said Circuit.

5th. Adbel Coleman, a native of New York, born October 9th, 1782, has been in the profession of religion 18 months, travilled Salt-river and Shelby Circuits 6 months, was well received, and came recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Shelby Circuit.

6th. William Houston, a native of Virginia, born August 5th, 1781, has been in the profession of religion about three years, and came recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Lexington Circuit.

3rd. Cumberland Destrict: 1st, Richard Browning, who has been in the profession of religion about 4 years, has travilled 6 months, was approved of in the Circuit, and came recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Barren Circuit. 2nd, Peter Cartwright, a native of Virginia, born September the 1st, 1785, has provesed religion about 4 years, has travilled a Circuit 9 months, was well received, and came recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Wayne Circuit. 3rd, Joseph Williams, a native of Pensylvania, born December 5th, 1778, has been in the profession of faith in Christ three years, has trav-

illed about six months, and came recommended by the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Red-river Circuit. 4th, Miles Harper, a native of Virginia, born November 4th, 1784, profeses to have been converted to God about 4 years, has travilled 9 months, was prety well received, and came recommend(ed) by the Quarterly Conference of Levingston Circuit. 5th, Edmond Wilcox, a native of Virginia, is now about twenty-seven years of age; has been in the profession of religion about 2 years, is alltogether untried as a speaker, but came recommended by the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Red-river Circuit. 6th, Joshua Barnes, a married man, four or five years in the profession of religion, has travilled about 6 months, of Slender gifts, but undoubted piety, came recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Levingston Circuit. 7th, James Axley, has been converted about two years, has travilled some months, was received as a man of undoubted piety, but small gifts, and came recommended by the Quarterly Conference in Levingston Circuit. 8th, Joshua Riggin, who has been a professor of religion about 4 or 5 years, has exhorted in his neighbourhood for some time, and came recommended by the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Barrin Circuit, but his gifts are altogether unknown to us at present. 9th, Thomas Lasley, a native of Virginia, born March 31st, 1782, for about 2 years he has professed the knowledge of sin forgiven, has travilled three months, he came recommended by the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Wayne Circuit, where his grace and gifts are thought favourable of.

Ohio Destrict: 1st, Caleb Wesley Cloud, born February 11th day, 1782, in the state of Delaware, Newcastle County, converted January 8th day, 1801, his piety and gifts were spoken well of where he was known; he therefore obtained a recommendation from the Quarterly Conference of Hockhocking Circuit,

2nd, Benjamin Edge, born February 27th, 1774, made application to the last Conference but was not received, but was afterwards received by the presiding elder, and Quarterly Meeting Conference, of the Miami Circuit, and travilled nine months, he has been in the profession of religion about 3 years, is esteemed for his undoubted piety, but of contracted abilities, accompinied with some peculiarities, and came recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Muskingum Circuit. 3rd, Obed Noland, a native of Virginia, was born March 6th, 1777, who has professed religion 3 years, was recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Danville Circuit, to the presiding elder of the Kentucky Destrict, and was put on a Circuit, continued about three months, and went home of his own accord, but came forward to the annual Conference, and desired to be tried again, it was the opinion of his acquaintences, that he professed gifts and graces to be useful, and as he is much addicted to the nerve complaint, the Conference are of opinion that his failure should be looked over, and that he should be admitted upon his former recommendation.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Publick Collection at Conference, by William Burk,.....	$ 32 67
Given by the preachers in Conference,.....	30 40
Draft of the Charter fund,.....	100 00
Draft on the Book fund,.....	100 00
	$263 07

	Deficiencies.	The appropriation of money, according to the calls of necessity.	
William McKendree, ..	$ 16 96	.....	$ 00 00..
William Burk,	96 9	.....	47 00..
John Sale,	19 3	.....	00 00..
Lewis Garrett,	22 50	.....	00 00..
John Watson,	8 2	.....	00 00..
Benjamin Lakin,	61 18	.....	13 00..
Thomas Wilkerson,	3 10	.....	00 00..
Carried Over	226 88	Carried Over, ...	60 00..

	Deficiencies.	The appropriation of money, according calls of necessity.	
Brought Over, ...	$226 88	Brought Over, ...	$ 60 00
George Askin,	21 00	.....	4 00..
William Thompson,	37 60	.....	12 3¾
James Quinn,	61 61	.....	12 3¾
Jacob Watson,	4 00	.....	00 00..
Asa Shinn,	23 00	.....	15 00..
Jacob Young,	16 75	.....	5 00..
William Crutchfield,	16 70	.....	00 00..
Anthony Houston,	44 00	.....	4 00..
Joseph Oglesby,	6 00	.....	00 00..
William Patterson,	2 00	.....	00 00..
Nathan Barnes,	9 15	..... Mitionary,	28 00
John Meek,	1 4	.....	00 00
Adjit McGuire	10 00	.....	00 00
Joshua Oglesby,	15 75	.....	00 00
John McClure,	10 00	.....	00 00
John Johnston,	5 00	.....	00 00
Abraham Amos,	65 89	.....	10 00
Jesse Walker,	107 00	.....	28 00
Peter Cartwright,	23 00	.....	00 00
Miles Harper,	26 50	.....	4 00
Samuel Parker,	13 00	.....	00 00
Adbel Coleman,	7 00	.....	00 00
Moses Black,	43 75	.....	18 00
Benjamin Edge,	24 00	.....	4 00
Hezekiah Harriman,	80 00	.....	20 00
Lawner Blackman,	00 00	..... Mitionary	20 00
Joseph Oglesby,	.....	..... Mitionary	13 00
Fletcher Sulivan, on Benjamin Youngs Account.....			7 00
	$899 62	Gained in Count $1.	$264 7½

Quest. Who are admitted into full Connection? Ansr. 1st. Jacob Young, a man of considerable abilities, who has travilled in Kentucky and Holston Destricts, and has been in some measure useful, his charrecter stands fair. 2nd. William Crutchfield, a man of good abilities, and has travilled in Kentucky and Cumberland Destricts; has been in some degree useful, his charecter stands fair. 3rd. Ralph Lotspiech, who has travilled in Kentucky and Cumberland Destricts, a man in the beginning of his publick labours but of small abilities, but has improved considerably, and the last year tolerable useful, his charecter stands fair. 4th. Jesse Walker, who entered the travilling Connec-

tion in the capassity of a married man, he has travilled in the Cumberland Destrict, a man of considerable gifts and usefulness, who still feels willing to give himself to the worke, his charecter examined and stands fair.

Quest. Who are located? Ans. 1st. Samuel Douthit, who applied by letter for a location and a majority of the Conference were of opinion that he should obtain said location. 2nd. Moses Black, applied to the Conference by letter for a location, or a dispensation to go to South Carolina, to see after some of his sister's children, the Conference has accordingly granted him a dispensation for three months. 3rd. John A. Granade, applied to the Conference by letter for a location, and obtained the same. 4th. Moses Floyd, who applied to Conference by letter for a location. Some deficulties existed which may be known by reference to some letters addressed to the preachers and Conference, which are filed; the Conference are of opinion that their is no just ground, for crimmination, and therefore have granted him a location. 5th. Benjamin Young, who applied to Conference by letter for a location, but in the same letter states that he has conducted himself in such a way that he laid himself open to the judgement of the Conference, who after metureing the subject, judged proper to exclude him; the grounds on which the Conference excluded him may be seen by refference to the letters, which are filed.

The Conference proceeded to elect William Crutchfield, Jacob Young, and Ralph Lotspiech to the office of Deacons, but Bishops not being present, they were not ordained but returned on the minutes as elected.

The Conference proceeded to elect Jesse Walker, Joab Watson, Asa Shinn, and George Askin to the office of Elders; but the Bishops not being present, they were not ordained, but returned on the minutes

as elected; Joab Watson, Asa Shinn and George Askin had not travilled out their probation, but being in the same situation of Lawner Blackman and Louther Taylor, the Conference are of opinion that they may be elected on the same principals, whose case may be seen be refering to the Journal of the last Annual Conference.

It is the joint opinion of Thomas Wilkerson and the Conference, that at present he does not possess strength of body sufficient for the toils of a station; the Conference therefore grant him a dispensation, until he and the presiding Elder of the Kentucky Destrict shall judge it proper for him to take a station.

Conference adjourned to meet again at Anthony Houston's, October 2nd, 1805.

WILLIAM BURK, Secretary. WILLIAM MCKENDREE.

NOTE 5.—Neither Bishop Asbury nor Bishop Whatcoat was present at the Conference of 1804. Bishop Asbury lay sick in Western Pennsylvania, and there are no entries in his Journal from September 5 to October 9. (Asbury's Journal, Vol. III., pages 146, 147.)

Peter Cartwright, who entered the Western Conference this year, however, states in his Autobiography that Bishop Asbury presided at the Conference. (Autobiography, 72.) This is evidently a mistake, as Asbury states in his Journal under date of October 9, "After thirty-four days of afflictive illness, I re-commence my journal. I have been, during my illness, at Harry Stevene's; kinder souls than this family I could not wish; but there were many of them and others continually coming and going," etc. (Journal III., 146.)

Another proof of the mistake of Cartwright is contained in the Journal of the Western Conference, which states that "Neither of the Bishops were present, being prevented by affliction," nor does the signature of Bishop Asbury appear at the end of the Conference Journal for this year.

The appointments for the Western Conference for 1804 are given in the General Minutes as follows:

HOLSTON DISTRICT. *Jonathan Jackson, P. Elder.*

Holston, Joab Watson, William Houston.

Nollichuckie, William Ellington, Thomas Lasley.
French Broad, Elisha W. Bowman, Joshua Oglesby.
New River, Anthony Houston.
Clinch, Moses Black, Obed Noland.
Powell's Valley, Thomas Milligan.

KENTUCKY DISTRICT. *William McKendree, P. Elder.*

Limestone, George Askin, Joshua Riggin.
Lexington, John Sale, Edmund Wilcox.
Hinkstone, Samuel Parker, Abdel Coleman.
Salt River and Shelby, Benjamin Lakin, Peter Cartwright.
Danville, Wm. Thompson, Adjet McGuire.
Licking, Benjamin Edge.

CUMBERLAND DISTRICT. *Lewis Garrett, P. Elder.*

Nashville, William Crutchfield, Fletcher Sullivan.
Red River, Miles Harper, James Axley.
Barren, Ralph Lotspeich.
Wayne, Asa Shinn, John McClure.
Roaring River, Richard Browning.
Livingston and Hartford, Jesse Walker, Joshua Barnes.
Natchez, Learner Blackman, Nathan Barnes.
Illinois, Joseph Oglesby.

OHIO DISTRICT. *William Burke, P. Elder.*

Miami and Mad River, John Meek, Abraham Amos.
Scioto, Louther Taylor, Caleb W. Cloud.
Hockhocking, James Quinn, Joseph Williams.
Muskingum and Kanawha, Jacob Young.
Guyandott, William Pattison.

VI.

JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN CONFERENCE, HELD AT ANTHONY HOUSTON'S, SCOTT COUNTY, KENTUCKY, OCTOBER 2ND, A.D. 1805.[a]

Those marked with * were not present.

MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE.

Francis Asbury,
Richard Whatcoat,
William McKendree,
William Burk,
Lewis Garrett,
Jonathan Jackson,
Thomas Wilkerson,
John Sale,
Benjamin Lakin,
Lawner Blackman,*
Louther Taylor,
Thomas Milligan,*
Moses Black,*
Elisha Bowman,
James Quinn,
Asa Shinn,
Joab Watson,
Jesse Walker,* elected last year,
George Askin, ordained Elder,
William Crutchfield,
Jacob Young,
Ralph Lotspiech,
Adjet McGuire,
William Pattison,
Anthoney Houston,
Joseph Oglesby,
John McClure,
Abraham Amos,
John Meek,
Nathan Barnes, elected to the office of Deacon.

The Conference proceeded to nominate Joab Watson, Secretary. Adjet McGuire, being accused with saying masters ought not correct their slaves, and he denied it, after which the case was investigated pro and con (as far as circumstances would admit) and the Conference concluded he was not guilty.

Asa Shinn and Joab Watson, being elected last Conference to the office of Elders; but the Bishops not being present were not ordained, were presented for examination, and were afterward ordained.

William Crutchfield, Jacob Young, and Ralph Lotspiech, being elected last Conference to the Deacons

office, were presented for examination and were afterward ordained.

Resolved, that two Committees be appointed, the 1st a Committee of Address, consisting of three members. 2nd, A Committee of Appropriations, consisting of four members.

Proceeded to elect by ballot, William Burk, William McKendree, and Thomas Wilkerson, the Committee of Address. Proceeded to elect, by ballot, John Sale, Louther Taylor, Lewis Garrett, and Elisha Bowman, the Committee of Appropriations.

The president proceeded to read the address from the Virginia, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New Yorke, and New England Conferences; which gave a summery statement of there temporal and spiritual concerns:— He likewise proceeded to read an Address from the Board of Trustees of the Charterd Fund. The Conference proceeded to vote a draught of $300 on the Book Concern, and $150 on the Charterd Fund; to be appropriated to the use of the itinerant preachers, or some charitable purpose.

Second Day of Conference.

Motion, Shall those who were elected last Conference to the office of Deacons, and ordained this, be marked in the Minutes with an asterism? No; but shall be eligible to the elders office next Conference.

Who are ordained Deacons? Adjet McGuier, William Pattison, Anthony Houston, Joseph Oglesby, John McClure, Abraham Amos, John Meek, Jesse Head, and Abner Leonard. The two last were Local Preachers, being recommend as required in the Dicipline.

Motion, Shall the Committee of address write letters to the several Quarterly Conferences in the boundery of the Western Conference? Resolved they shall.

Motion, Shall said committee write an Epistle to the

several Annual Conferences in America; Concerning the Temporal and Spiritual State of the Western Conference? Resolved they shall.

Motion, Shall said committee write a letter to the Trustees of the Charterd Fund? Resolved they shall.

Motion, Shall said committee write to the General Book Steward? Resolved they shall.

It is the opinion of this Conference, that we live in an age in which there is great need to cry aloud, and spare not, and show lukewarm professors the danger of resting in a form only, and urge experimental and practical holiness, and teach sinners their utmost peril, and lead them to the Saviour of Men.

Afternoon, proceeded to take the numbers of members on the different circuits, belonging to the Western Conference. The preachers proceeded to give a statement of what they received as Quarteradge since last Conference, which may be seen in the Report of the Committee of Appropriation.

Zadok B. Thackston came forward recommended, was presented, and ordained to the office of a Deacon.

THIRD DAY OF CONFERENCE.

The President proceeded to examine a fiew who were admited last Conference, being absent were not examined, viz., James Axley, Joshua Riggin, Caleb W. Cloud, and Richard Browning. Three probationers were also examined (i.e.) Thomas Hellums, William Hitt, Zadock B. Thackston.

Who are admitted on trial? Those marked thus X were received without an examination, before the Conerence; not being present.

X George Christopher Light, who is a native of Westmorland County, Pensylvania, and was born January, A.D. 1785.

William Hitt was born October 28th, 1779, Fauquier County, Virginia. Zadok B. Thackston, has a family,

but is willing to travil as a preacher; he is in Deacon's orders and was born February 21st day, 1766, Prince Edward County, Virginia, and has been in the profession of religion upwards of 12 years. Thomas Hellums was born June 5th day, 1781, Green County, Tennessee. In the profession of religion about six years. He was examined before the Quarterly Meeting and employed by the presiding elder, and has travilled 9 months. X John Thompson was born ——. In the profession of religion about 3 years, was examined before the Quarterly Conference, and employed by the presiding Elder. Has travilled 6 months. X Charles R. Matheny was born ——; has been in the profession of religion 3 years, and has been travilling six months. X Samuel Sellers, has been a professor of religion three years, and was examined, and employed by the preciding Elder, and has travilled six months. X David Young ———. X Henry Fisher, has been a professor of religion three years, speaking in publick 2 years as a Local Preacher, and has been travilling six months. X Moses Ashworth, has been travilling nine months.

The Bishop proceeded to ordain Joseph Moore, a Local Preacher, to the office of a Deacon.

Afternoon—The Bishops and Secretary signed the order to the President of the Charterd Fund, for $150, to be paid to the General Book Stewards.

The report of the appropriate Committee was presented, read, and approved.

Report of the Committee Claims.

Collected from the Circuits,	$ 24 87
Draft on the Charter Fund,	150 00
Draft on the Book Fund,	300 00
Publick Collection at Conference,	51 50
Collection from the preachers at Conference,	55 25
Extra Collection for Brother Bowman,	10 00
	$591 62

	Deficencies.	Proportion.	Expences.
Jonathan Jackson, 9 Months,	$ 15 45	00 45	
William Houston,	20 00	00 00	
Thomas Lasley,	19 00	00 00	
Elisha Bowman,	20 00	00 00	
Joshua Oglesby,	39 50	00 50	
Anthony Houston,	46 50	26 50	
Moses Black,	45 20	09 20	
Thomas Milligan,	50 11	29 89	
Joshua Riggan,	5 00	00 00	
John Sale,	43 65	3 65	
Edmond Wilcox, 3 Months,	10 00	00 00	
Samuel Parks,	20 00	00 00	
Adbel Coleman,	18 00	00 00	
Benjamin Lakin,	61 17	21 17	
Peter Cartwright,	24 60	4 61	
William Thompson, 9 Months,	26 57	00 00	
Adjet McGuire,	14 82	00 00	
Benjamin Edge,	20 00	00 00	
Lewis Garrett,	66 14	26 14	
Ralph Lotspiech,	27 10	7 10	
Asa Shinn,	38 50	18 50	
John McClure,	38 75	18 75	
Richard Browning,	21 49	1 49	
Jesse Walker,	60 00	20 00	
Joseph Oglesby,	43 50	23 50	
William Burk,	34 16	00 00	
Louther Taylor,	6 31	00 00	
James Quinn,	51 29	11 29	
Joseph Williams,	24 00	00 00	
Jacob Young,	23 45	3 45	
William Pattison,	18 50	00 00	
Thomas Wilkerson,	32 25	00 00	
Francis Asbury, Expencis,	985 11	24 61	
Do Do Salery,	.....	11 43	
Richard Whatcoat, Salery,	.....	11 43	
Joseph Crawford,	.....	30 00	
William McKendree's Expences,	.....	00 00	15 00
William Burk's Expences,	.....	00 00	25 00
John Sale's Expences,	.....	00 00	1 00
Jacob Young's Expences,	.....	00 00	29 91
Jesse Walker's Expences,	.....	00 00	15 00
	985 11	312 66	85 91
Missionary's,	Appropriated		
Elisha Bowman,	$100 00		
William Pattison,	30 00		
Caleb W. Cloud,	30 00		
Thomas Lasley,	30 00		
	$190 00		

Proportion of Deficencies,	$312 66
Appropriated for Expenses,	85 91
Appropriated for Missionarys,	190 00
	$588 57
Lost in Count,	3 05
	$591 62

The Committee of Address presented and read their letter to the Brethren in the Quarterly Meetings of the several circuits, which passed the approbation of the Conference.

Samuel Douthit deposited $20 two years past in the hands of William McKendree, to be appropriated to the paying of a teacher in the Bethel Academy; but failing to employ one, he has refunded the money, by Elisha Bowman.

Who remain on trial? William Ellington, who went to Georgia last July, but sent word to Conference that he would fill any station the Bishop should think proper to give him. Samuel Parker, Joshua Oglesby, William Thompson, William Houston, Richard Browning; Peter Cartwright stood reproved before the Conference, for some of his conduct, but promising amendment, he was continued on Trial; Joseph Williams, and Milds Harper.

Fourth Day of Conference.

Joshua Barnes, being a married man, and somewhat encumbered, he desisted from travilling. Edmond Wilcox, in the first year of his probation, behaved so very imprudent, that the Conference resolved to expunge his name from the minutes: James Axley, Joshua Riggin, Thomas Lasley, Caleb W. Cloud, Benjamin Edge. Obed Nolen, married in the first year of his probation, left his Circuit and went home.

Motion, Shall the following alteration take place in the 5th question in the Minutes of the Annual Con-

ference, (ie) Who have been elected and ordained Elders this year? Instead of, Who are the Elders? Resolved, by a unanimous voice, that it shall; Resolved, also, that the former Elders' names shall be printed in Itallics;

Motion, Shall the following alteration take place in the 7th question of the Minutes of the Annual Conference? (ie) Who have Located this year? Instead of the present form? Resolved, it shal.

Motion, Shall the 8th question of the Minutes of the Annual Conference be devided into the two following questions? 1st, Who are the Supernumerary preachers? 2nd, Who are the superannuated and worn-out preachers? Resolved it shall be by a majority.

The Committee of Address proceeded to read to the Conference their letter to the Trustees of the Chartered Fund, and was approved by the Conference. The preachers' characters were examined before the Conference.

Who have located this year? Lewis Garrett, William Crutchfield, Joab Watson.

Who are Supernumeraries? Jonathan Jackson.

The President of the Conference suggested the following idea, (ie) that it would be most proper for the riding preachers to disintangle themselves from all merchandesing, &c.

On motion Resolved, that the next Western Conference shall be on Nollichuckie, Tennessee State, Ebenezer, September 15th, 1806.

Resolved, that the Committee of Address write a few lines to the Brethren at Ebenezer, concerning the meeting of next Conference; and to the absent members of the Conference, especially to Thomas Milligan and Moses Black.

Fifth Day of Conference.

William Virmillion entered the list of probationers a little different from our common custom, not being formally recommended, but the united testimony of Thomas Hellums and William Houston concerning him, his gifts, &c.

The Committee of Address read their letter to the General Book Stewards, and was approved by the Conference.

We have this day covenanted to pray for our brethern in the succeeding Conferences; especially in the time of their sitting.

It is the judgment of the Conference, and consent of the Missionaries, that it would be most proper for them to stay two years on their mission; provided it be compatible with their health, and the judgment of their Presiding Elder, unless recalled by the Annual Conference;

William Pattison, one of the Missionaries, was elected and ordained to the office of an Elder, in the first year of his probation for that office, in consequence of his Mission.

Thomas Lasley and Caleb W. Cloud were elected and ordained to the office of a Deacon, after one year of their probation for that office; in consequence of their Mission to the Natchez.

The Committee of Address read their letters addressed to the Quarterly Meeting Conferences, to Thomas Milligan, & Felin Earnest; and was approved by the Conference.

Said Committee read their address to the several Annual Conferences, and was approved by the Conference. The Conference spent a few hours, this evening, in speaking of the work of God in their souls and Circuits.

SIXTH DAY OF CONFERENCE.

The Committee of Address read a letter addressed to the brethren who entertained the present Annual Conference, and it was approved by the Conference.

Resolved that the Committee of Address write a letter to the Stewards and Brethren in the Natchez. Resolved that Thomas Wilkerson take the Books and papers of the Annual Conference.

Resolved that Thomas Wilkerson be appointed (with two or three more, as he may judge proper to call to his assistance) a committee to prepare a room for the reception of the next Annual Conference; to station the preachers in the time of the sitting of the Conference, and to see that they keep their stations.

The President read out the appointments of the preachers to their several Destrict and Circuits, and the Conference adjourned till the 15th of Sept., 1806.

Signed in and by order of Conference.

WILLIAM BURK, Secretary. FRANCIS ASBURY,
RICHARD WHATCOAT.

NOTE 6.—To make amends for the absence of the bishops from the Conference of 1804 both bishops attended the session of 1805. The bishops came to the Conference from Ohio, crossing into Kentucky on September 19.

Of the session of the Conference, Bishop Asbury states in his Journal: "We opened our Conference in great peace; there were about twenty-five members present; six hours a day were steadily occupied with business. The committees of claims and of addresses did much work, and it was well done. I completed my plan for the coming year, and submitted it to the presiding elders, who suggested but two alterations; may they be for the best! On the Sabbath day I preached to about three thousand souls. On Tuesday, after the rise of conference, I rode to Lexington; and on Wednesday to J. S. Hoard's, Jessamine County. I was under affliction of body; but perfect love, peace within, and harmony without, healed every malady." (Asbury's Journal, Vol. III., page 179.)

The appointments for 1805 (1806 in the General Minutes) were as follows:

HOLSTON DISTRICT. *Thomas Wilkerson, P. Elder.*

Holston, Anthony Houston, William Vermillion.
Nollichuckie, Moses Black.
French Broad, Ralph Lotspeich.
New River, Joseph Williams.
Clinch, John McClure, George C. Light.
Powell's Valley, William Hitt.
Carter's Valley, Thomas Milligan.

CUMBERLAND DISTRICT. *William McKendree, P. Elder.*

Nashville, Zadok B. Thackston.
Red River, Thomas Hellums.
Barren, Joshua Oglesby.
Roaring River, Benjamin Edge.
Wayne, William Ellington, Henry Fisher.
Livingston, William Houston.
Hartford, Jesse Walker.
Illinois, Charles B. Matheny.

KENTUCKY DISTRICT. *William Burke, P. Elder.*

Limestone, Jacob Young, Samuel Sellers.
Licking, Adjet McGuire.
Lexington, Samuel Parker, Miles Harper.
Hinkstone, Geo. Askin, Richard Browning.
Danville, William Thompson.
Salt River and Shelby, Asa Shinn, David Young, Moses Ashworth.

OHIO DISTRICT. *John Sale, P. Elder.*

Miami, Banjamin Lakin, Joshua Riggin.
Mad River, John Thompson.
Scioto, James Quinn, Peter Cartwright.
Hockhocking, John Meek, James Axley.
Muskingum, Louther Taylor.
Little Kanawha, Joseph Oglesby.
Guyandott, Abraham Amos.

MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT. *Learner Blackman, P. Elder.*

Natchez, Nathan Barnes, Thomas Lasley.
Wilkinson, Caleb W. Cloud.
Claiborne, William Pattison.
Appalousas, Elisha W. Bowman.

VII.

JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN ANNUAL CONFERENCE, HELD AT EBENEZER, ACCORDING TO ADJOURNMENT, STATE OF TENNESSEE, SEPTEMBER THE 15TH, 1806.[1]

Members of Conference.

Those marked thus * were absent.

Francis Asbury,
William McKendree,
William Burk,
Thomas Wilkerson,
John Sale,*
Benjamin Lakin,
Lawner Blackman,*
Louther Taylor,*
Thomas Milligan,
Moses Black,
Adjet McGuier,
Anthony Houston,
Joseph Ogelsby,
Elisha Bowman,*
James Quinn,*
Asa Shinn,*
George Askin,
Jesse Walker,
Jacob Young,
William Pattison,*
Ralph Lotspiech,
John McClure,
Abraham Amos,
John Meek,*
Nathan Barnes.*

The following were Admitted into full Connection:

Samuel Parker,
William Ellington,
William Houston,
Peter Cartwright,
Miles Harper,
Thomas Lasley,*
Benjamin Edge,
Joshua Ogelsby,
William Thompason,
Richard Browning,
Joseph Williams,
James Axley,
Caleb W. Cloud.*

The Conference proceeded to nominate and elect William Burk, Secretary. The Conference proceeded to the examination and election of those eligible to the office of Deacons. Those elected are as follows: William Ellington, but it is the opinion of some of the Conference, that he is too much relaxed in the execu-

tion of dicipline. Samuel Parker, Joshua Ogelsby, William Houston, Richard Browning. Peter Cartwright, elected with the proviso, that the president give him a caution to be more serious, the President proceeded to give him the caution. Joseph Williams, Miles Harper, James Axley, and Benjamin Edge.

By reference to 23rd page, it will be seen that Caleb W. Cloud and Thomas Lasley were both elected and ordained to the office of Deacon, the first year of their probation, in consequence of their Mission to Natchez, the Conference haveing received information respecting their moral charrecter, think proper to receive them both into full Connection.

William Thompson, who had been a Local Deacon for several years before he travilled, after travilling out his probation, the Conference judged it proper, to elect him to the office of an Elder, and from the particular situation of his familey concerns, he thought proper to apply for a Location; Resolved, that a Location be granted.

William Carrico and James Hobbs, local preachers, came properly recommended, and were ordained to the office of Deacons. On motion, made by William McKendree, that a funeral sermon be preach'd to the Western Annual Conference, on the Death of the Late Revd. Richard Whatcoat; Resolved, that Francis Asbury be appointed to preach the same.

Joshua Riggin, haveing road out his probation, stands accused by John Whitaker of haveing acted contrary to the charecter of a Minester and a Christian, in a case between said Riggin and said Whitaker's daughter Nancy. Said J. Whitaker, states by letter that J. Riggin promised his daughter Nancy marriage, but failed to comply with his promise, and said J. Whitaker, failing to produce the necessary documents, the Conference did not determine against said J. Riggin. Mo-

tion, Shall J. Riggin be admitted into full Connection? Not agreed. Motion, Shall J. Riggin remain on trial? Not agreed. Motion, Shall J. Riggin be readmitted on Trial? Not agreed. The reason why Joshua Riggin is rejected from the travilling connection, is that the Conference judge he wants preaching abilities.

On motion, Resolved, that William McKendree, Thomas Wilkerson, and William Burk, be appointed a Committee of business and address.

TUESDAY, 2ND DAY OF CONFERENCE.

William Hitt's charecter examined before the Conference, and he continued on trial. Moses Black applied to the Conference for a Location. Resolved, that the Location be granted him.

The President proceeded to read the letter from the South Carolina Conference, to the other Six Annual Conferences. Thomas Wilkerson, by the president's direction, proceeded to read to the Conference, Doctor Coke's circular letter to the American Conferences.

On motion, Resolved, that this Conference take up the Doctor's circular letter, and answer the same.

William McKendree proceeded to read the several letters from the Quarterly Meeting Conferences of Cumberland Destrict; addressed to the Annual Conference.

Thomas Wilkerson proceeded, by the direction of the President, to read the letters from Natchez Mission.

The Conference proceeded to receive on trial those that came recommended.

1st. James King came recommend from the circuit in which he road when imployed by Bro. Th. Wilkerson, in the interval of the Annual Conference, but the Conference require that a recommendation be produced to the next Annual Conference, from the circuit in which he lived. A compliance to the above being agreed to, he was admitted on trial.

2nd. Milton Ladd, who came properly recommended

from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Clinch Circuit. A native of North Carolina, born August the 11th, 1789, the Conference agree that he be admitted on trial.

3rd. Hector Sandford came properly recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Scioto Circuit, likewise a strong recommendation by letter from Edward Tiffin Esq.; the Conference agree that he be admitted on trial.

4th. Fredrick Hood came properly recommended from the Hockhocking Quarterly Meeting Conference, formerly a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Baltimore Circuit, and came recommended, as a member, to the State of Ohio, the Conference agree that he be admitted on trial.

5th. John Tarver, whose recommendation came in proper form from the Wilkinson Circuit, signed in behalf of the Quarterly Conference of said Circuit, in the Mississippi Destrict. It is the opinion of the Conference, that he may be admitted on trial.

6th. Abbott Goddard came properly recommended from the Limestone Quarterly Meeting Conference, the Conference agree that he be admitted on trial.

7th. Hezekiah Shaw, formerly a licensed Local preacher in Jersey, and came recommended to Kentucky, where he was imployed by the presiding elder for 9 months, 3 in Danville and six in Salt-river and Shelby, Circuits; from the latter he obtained a proper recommendation. The Conference concur that he be admitted on trial.

8th. John Collins came recommended, but not in an orderly way, the Conference require that a proper recommendation be procured against the next Annual Conference. Bro. J. Collins is a Local Preacher, in Deacon's orders, on the Miami Circuit. A compliance with the above being agreed to, he was admitted on trial.

9th. John Travis came properly recommended from Ellenoies Quarterly Meeting Conference. The Conference judge proper to admit him on trial.

10th. Benjamin Wofford came from South Carolina, as a licensed local preacher, into the bounds of the Western Annual Conference, and was imployed by the presiding elder of Cumberland Destrict, to ride Hartford Circuit, and from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of said circuit obtained a proper recommendation. The Annual Conference think proper to admit him on trial, upon condition that he provide, as soon as may be, for the emancipation of his two slaves, now in South Carolina.

11th. John Crane came properly recommended from the Nashville Quarterly Meeting Conference. The Conference agree that he be admitted on trial.

12th. Joseph Bennett came properly recommended from the Scioto Quarterly Meeting Conference. The Conference are of opinion that he may be admitted on trial.

James Quinn applied to the Conference, by letter, for a Location. Resolved, that a Location be given him.

Louther Taylor applied to the Conference, by letter, for a dispensation for six months; but the Conference are of opinion, that it would be more proper to give him a location, And if he should come forward, to any Annual Conference, in the course of the present year, he may be imployed. Resolved, that instead of a dispensation, he receive a Location.

Bishop Asbury proceeded to ordain, to the office of Deacons, William Ellington, Samuel Parker, Joshua Oglesby, William Houston, Richard Browning, Peter Cartwright, Joseph Williams, Miles Harper, James Axley, and Benjamin Edge.

Motion by William McKendree, that a Committee be appointed, in a case of delicacy, and that the Confer-

ence impower them to settle the same without further inquiry.

On motion, Resolved, that William McKendree, Thomas Walker, and William Burk, be and are appointed the said Committee.

WEDNESDAY, 3RD DAY OF CONFERENCE.

Three places were proposed for the sitting of the next Annual Conference (i.e.) Liberty, Flemingsbourgh, and Chillecothe.

The following probationers' charrecters were examined before the Conference, and their probation continued:

George C. Light, some little imprudence stated against him respecting his manner of executing dicipline. Zadok B. Thackston, Thomas Hellums, John Thompson, Samuel Sellers, David Young, Moses Ashworth, William Vermillion.

Henry Fisher's Letter was read before the Conference, and from his inabillity, the Conference judge he cannot fill a station this year. It is therefore the opinion of the Conference, that the Committee write him a fiew lines.

Motion by William McKendree, that the case of Benjamin Young be considered, and that the Conference give their judgment in regard to his situation. On motion, Resolved, that the assistant preacher shall have authority to put Benjamin Young in possession of his credentials; but if the preacher think he should not have them, he may detain them until the presiding Elder visit the Quarterly Meeting.

Jacob Young's and Ralph Lotspeich's charrecters examined before the Conference, and after examination, the Conference proceeded to elect them to the office of Elders.

Jonathan Jackson applied to the Conference, by let-

ter, for a location. Resolved, that a location be given him.

The Conference proceeded to vote by ballot for the seat of the next Annual Conference. On examining the votes, it was found that a majority was in favor of Flemingsbourgh. On motion, Resolved, that the next Annual Conference commence at Flemingsbourgh on the 5th day of October, 1807.

Motion by Bishop Asbury, that a letter be written to Jonathan Jackson, informing him, that in consequence of his not spending his time in the bounds of the Western Conference, they judge it unnecessary to send him any supply.

Thomas Wilkerson proceeded to read Doctor Coke's circular letter a second time.

William Burk, by the direction of the President, proceeded to read the several letters from the Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, and New England Conferences, being their answer to Dr. Coke's circular letter.

William McKendree proceeded to read the answer of the Western Annual Conference to Dr. Coke's circular letter. The Conference proceeded to receive the answer to Doctor Coke's circular letter, paragraph by paragraph. Resolved, that the letter, as received by the Conference, be sent to Doctor Coke. Resolved, that a coppy be likewise sent to the South Carolina and succeeding Conferences.

On motion, Resolved, that this Conference recommend the publication of Howese's Church History.

Thirsday, 4th Day of Conference.

Thomas Wilkerson proceeded to read the letter addressed to Jonathan Jackson. Resolved, that the letter be sent as received by the Conference.

William McKendree proceeded to read one letter addressed to Jonathan Jackson. Resolved, that the let-

ter be sent as received by the Conference. William McKendree proceeded to read one letter addressed to Benjamin Wofford, on the business of his two Negroes in South Carolina, and advise'es him to measuer's; thay may secure there emancipation; and another to the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Nashville Circuit, directing them to appropriate the moneys ariseing from the sale of the Meeting House in Nashville, as they may judge proper. Resolved, that the letters be sent, &c.

Bishop Asbury proceeded to read the letter addressed from the New York to the New England and succeeding Conferences, respecting the propriety of deligateing a Conference, to meet in Baltimore, on the 4th of July, 1807, consisting of seven members from each Annual Conference, for the express purpose of electing a Superintendent or Superintendents of the Methodist Episcopal Church in America.

The Conference proceeded to adopt the method of the New York Conference. Resolved, by a unanimous vote, that a deligation shall take place. The Conference proceeded to elect by ballot the following members, William McKendree, Thomas Wilkerson, John Sale, Benjamin Lakin, Thomas Milligan, Jacob Young, and William Burk.

On motion, Resolved, that a draft be made on the Chartered Fund for $180.

The Bishop proceeded to examine the charecters of the preachers, one by one. Nothing immorral stated against any of the members.

On motion, Resolved, that a draft be made on the Book Fund, in favour of the Conference, for $300. The drafts on the Book and Chartered Funds, in favour of the Conference, are answered as follows: William McKendree, $86; Thomas Wilkerson, $197; William Burk, $197.

Motion by William McKendree, and seconded by William Burk, that the Conference reconsider their vote respecting the time and place of the sitting of the next Annual Conference. Resolved, that the subject be reconsidered.

On motion, Resolved, that the next Annual Conference be at Chillecothe, State of Ohio, on the 15th day of September, 1807.

It is motioned, that the Conference vote by ballot, for two more Electors; for the deligated Conference, to be in Baltimore, on the 4th day of July, 1807. That if in consequence any of the other seven should fail, they may be in readiness to fill their place, or places.

Resolved, that George Askin and Jesse Walker be, and are hereby, accordingly elected.

The Committee of Business reported, and the Conference agree to the settlement of said Committee.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF BUSINESS.

Holston Destrict,	$ 00 00
Cumberland Destrict,	12 20
Kentucky Destrict,	27 00
Ohio Destrict,	64 27
Draft on the Chartered Fund,	180 00
Draft on the Book Fund,	300 00
	583 47

	Deficencies.	Proportion.
Thomas Wilkerson,	$ 19 00	$ 8 00
Thomas Milligan,	11 34	00 00
Ralph Lotspiech,	14 00	2 50
Anthony Houston,	9 00	00 00
John McClure,	29 47	17 97
Joseph Williams,	18 91	7 41
George C. Light,	21 50	10 00
William Vermillion,	31 31	19 81
William McKendree,	51 52	40 00
Jesse Walker,	65 80	43 80
William Ellington,	54 00	42 50
Joshua Oglesby,	31 62	20 12
William Houston,	17 64	6 14
	375 11	218 25

	Deficencies.	Proportion.
Brought Over,	$375 11	$218 25
Benjamin Edge,	24 00	12 50
David Young,	54 00	42 50
George Askin,	62 71	40 71
William Thompson,	83 45	61 45
Adjit McGuier,	15 42	3 92
Richard Browning	23 15	11 65
Benjamin Lakin,	53 30	31 30
Louther Taylor,	54 00	42 50
Joseph Oglesby,	58 25	46 75
Abraham Amos,	38 81	27 31
Henry Fisher,	12 00	12 00
Francis Asbury,	24 00	24 00
	878 20	574 74
		583 47
Ballence,		8 73

For charitable purposes.		Distributed.	
Preachers Collection,....	$32 91	Conference, ...	$ 4 95
Publick Collection, ...	12 21	Milton Ladd, ...	5 00
Ballence brought Down,.	8 73	Jesse Walker, ...	14 50
		Moses Lawrence, ...	3 00
	$53 85	William Thompson, ...	14 50
		William Burk, ...	10 00
			51 95
			53 85
		Lost in Count, ...	1 90

FRIDAY, THE 5TH DAY OF CONFERENCE.

On motion, Resolved, that the Conference will do the best they can to keep the Circuits well supplied during the time of the sitting of the Conferences, and that the Preachers and Presiding Elders do exert themselves to accomplish the same.

A collection made in Conference, among the preachers for charitable purposes, $32.91.

The Conference proceeded to raise a fund by Subscription, for the use and benefit of Bethel Academy, in Kentucky.

The Conference proceeded to elect Jacob Young, Samuel Parker, and William Houston, as trustees of

the said fund; whose duty it shall be, to keep regular books, for the purpose of entering Subscriptions, and keeping all the accounts of said fund.

The Conference raised by voluntary subscription for the above use, $67.50.

SATURDAY, 6TH DAY OF CONFERENCE.

Bishop Asbury proceeded to examine David Young, before the Conference.

William McKendree proceeded to read the letter addressed to Doctor Coke, a second time. The Conference are of opinion that no alteration is necessary.

The Conference judge it proper to recommend the printing of Fletcher's Vindication of the Catholic Faith, and recommend the same to the South Carolina and succeeding Conferences.

Motion, How shall the deligates to the Jubilee Conference be provided for, so as to be reimburs'd in their expenses? Resolved, that the deligates shall keep a particular account of their expenses, and of all moneys received by collection to defray the expenses of said Conference; and the next Western Annual Conference shall adjust the business, as they shall think proper.

Bishop Asbury proceeded to ordain to the office of Elders, Jacob Young, William Thompson, and Ralph Lotspiech.

Motion, Shall the Sixth Question in the Minutes of the Annual Conference be, Who are the Superintendents and Bishops?

Resolved, that the alteration, of the Sixth Question, in the Minutes of the Annual Conference, take place as stated in the above motion.

Adjourned to meet at Chillecothe, State of Ohio, on September the 15th, 1807.

Signed in and by order of the Conference.

WILLIAM BURK, Secretary. FRANCIS ASBURY.

NOTE 7.—Of this Conference, Bishop Asbury states: "Saturday 19, the Western Conference commenced its sitting, and ended on Monday." This date does not agree with that of the Journal of the Conference, which is September 15. Further Bishop Asbury says: "The Mississippi missionary preachers could not be spared, they thought, from their work, and therefore did not come. We had great peace. There are fourteen hundred added within the bounds of this conference. Of the fifty-five preachers stationed, all were pleased. In unison with the preceding conferences, an answer was given to Dr. Coke's letter. We had preaching at noon and night, and good was done. The brethren were in want, and could not suit themselves; so I parted with my watch, my coat, and my shirt. By order of the conference, I preached a funeral discourse on the death of our dear friend Whatcoat, from John i. 47-50; there were not far from two thousand people present. If good were done, which I trust and hope, it is some compensation for my sufferings—thirteen hundred miles in heat and sickness on the road; and in the house, restless hours, the noise of barking dogs, impatient children, and people trotting about, and opening and shutting doors at all hours." (Asbury's Journal, Vol. III., page 206.)

The appointments for 1806 are given in the General Minutes as follows:

HOLSTON DISTRICT. *Thomas Wilkerson, P. Elder.*

Holston, Ralph Lotspeich, John Crane.
Nollichuckie, William Houston.
French Broad, James Axley.
New-River, Thomas Milligan.
Clinch, Richard Browning, George C. Light.
Powell's Valley, John McClure.
Carter's Valley, Joshua Oglesby.
West Point, to be supplied.

CUMBERLAND DISTRICT. *William McKendree, P. Elder.*

Nashville, Jacob Young, Hezekiah Shaw.
Red River, Zadok B. Thackston.
Roaring River, Miles Harper.
Wayne, Moses Ashworth.
Livingston, David Young.
Hartford, Benjamin Edge, Samuel Sellers.
Illinois, Jesse Walker.
Missourie, John Travis.

Mississippi District. *Learner Blackman, P. Elder.*

Natchez, Caleb W. Cloud.
Wilkinson, William Pattison.
Claiborne, Nathan Barnes, John Traver.
Ochitta, Thomas Lasley.
Appalousas, Elisha W. Bowman.

Kentucky District. *William Burke, P. Elder.*

Licking, Abraham Amos.
Limestone, Samuel Parker, Hector Sanford.
Lexington, James Ward, George Askin.
Hinkstone, Joseph Williams, Jn. Thompson.
Danville, William Hitt, Joseph Bennett.
Salt River, Frederick Hood.
Shelby, Joseph Oglesby.

Ohio District. *John Sale, P. Elder.*

Miami, Benjamin Lakin, John Collins.
Mad River, Adjet McGuire, Isaac Quinn.
Scioto, Anthony Houston, Milton Ladd.
Hockhockin, Joseph Hays, James King.
Muskingum, Peter Cartwright.
Little Kanawha, William Virmillion.
Guyandott, John Clingan.
White River,[1] Thomas Hellums, Sela Paine.
Licking, William Ellington.

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[1]The White River Circuit should read "Whitewater," a circuit in Southeastern Indiana.

VIII.

JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN ANNUAL CONFERENCE, BEGUN AND HELD AT CHILLECOTHE, OHIO STATE, SEPTEMBER 14TH, 1807.[8]

First Day of Conference.

MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE.

Those marked thus * are absent.

Francis Asbury,
William McKendree,
William Burk,
Thomas Wilkerson,*
John Sale,
Lawner Blackman,*
Thomas Milligan,
James Ward,
Benjamin Lakin,
Elisha W. Bowman,*
George Askin,
Jesse Walker,*
William Pattison,
Ralph Lotspiech,
Jacob Young,
Joseph Hays,
William Ellington,
Samuel Parker,
Joshua Oglesby,
William Houston,
Richard Browning,*
Peter Cartwright,
Joseph Williams,
Miles Harper,*
James Axley,
Thomas Lasley,*
Caleb W. Cloud,
Benjamin Edge,*
John Meek,*
John McClure,
Nathan Barnes,*
Anthony Houston,
Joseph Oglesby,
Adjet McGuier,
Abraham Amos.

Admitted into full Connection,

George C. Light,
Zadock B. Thackston,
Thomas Hellums,
Samuel Sellers,
David Young,*
Moses Ashworth,
William Virmillion,
Solomon Langdon.

The Conference proceeded to examine, admit into Connection, and elect to the office of Deacons those who were eligible.

1st. George C. Light's character examined before the Conference, and they are of opinion that he be admit-

ted into full Connection, and elected to the office of a Deacon.

2nd. Zadock B. Thackston's character examined, and he (was) admitted into connection, haveing travilled two years before admitted on trial and when admitted ordained to the office of a Deacon, the Conference are of opinion that he be elected to the office of an Elder, and they accordingly elect him.

3rd. Thomas Hellums, examined and admitted into full Connection after haveing travilled upwards of two years, the Conference proceeded to elect him to the office of a Deacon.

4th. The case of John Thompson came before the Conference. It is the opinion of the Conference, as he declines travilling and nothing immoral appearing against him, the Conference Resolve that he be dismissed.

5th. Samuel Seller's character examined into and the Conference are of opinion that he be admitted into full Connection, and elected to the office of a Deacon.

6th. David Young's character examined and the Conference are of opinion that he be admitted into full Connection and elected to the office of a Deacon.

7th. Moses Ashworth's character examined and the Conference are of opinion that he be admitted into full Connection and elected to the office of a Deacon.

8th. William Virmillion's character examined into and the Conference are of opinion that he be admitted into full Connection, and also elected to the office of a Deacon.

9th. William Hitt's character examined into, Nothing immorral appearing against him, and as he seases travilling at the expiration of his probation, the Conference are of opinion that he (be) elected to the office of a Deacon.

On motion, Resolved, that a Committe of Business and Address be appointed.

The Conference proceeded to elect by ballot the Committee of Business and Address (i.e.) William McKendree, John Sale, James Ward, and William Burk.

The Conference proceeded to receive and examine the recommendations of those proposed to be admitted on Trial.

Holston Destrict.

1st. John Heniger came properly recommend by the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Holston Circuit, and was admitted on Trial.

Cumberland Destrict.

1st. John Cragg came properly recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Nashville Circuit, and was admitted on Trial.

2nd. William Lewis came properly recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Red River Circuit, and was admitted on Trial.

3rd. Thomas Kirkman came properly recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Levingston Circuit, who has been travilling six months, and is spoken of as a zelious young man the Conference thought proper to receive him on Trial.

4th. Edmond Wilcox came properly recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Wayn Circuit, after haveing travilled part one year in Levingston and one year in Wayn; the Conference think proper to admit him on Trial.

5th. Jedidiah McMin came properly Recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Roaring River Circuit, the Conference think proper to admit him on Trial.

Ohio Destrict.

1st. Jacob Turman came properly recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Mad River Cir-

cuit; he is said to be about 21 years and 9 months old, he has travilled 6 months. The Conference admit him on Trial.

2nd. William Mitchel came properly recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Licking Circuit. He was a fieu years past recommended to the Philadelphia Annual Conference and rejected, but the Western Annual Conference think proper, after meture consideration, to admit him on Trial.

3rd. James Blair came properly recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Scioto Circuit, but the Conference are of opinion that owing to his instability and frequent backslidings, and haveing but lately been restored to morality and the Church, they judge it improper to admit him on Trial.

4th. Francis McCormack came properly recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Miami Circuit, but owing to the peculiar situation of his family and his not being situated to travil any other circuit than the one he lives in, the Conference judge it improper to admit him on Trial.

Kentucky Destrict.

1st. Josiah Crawford came properly recommend from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Limestone Circuit; he is said to be about 40 years old; the Conference think proper to admit him on Trial.

2nd. Thomas Stitwell came properly recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Shelby Circuit; he is said to be about 23 years of age, he has travilled nearly a year; the Conference think proper to admit him on Trial.

3rd. Mynus Layton came properly recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Licking Circuit; he is said to be about 22 years of age; the Conference are of (opinion) that he be admitted on Trial.

4th. Henry Mallery came properly recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Hinkston Circuit; he is judged to be about 50 years of age; the Conference think proper to receive him on Trial.

TUESDAY, SECOND DAY OF CONFERENCE.

The Conference proceeded to receive the account of the Preachers' Deficiencies for the last year and revered the same to the Committe of Business.

William Burk proceeded to read to the Conference the resolutions from the several Circuits in the Kentucky Destrict respecting the sallery of those preachers who marry in the intervail of the Annual Conference.

The Conference Resolve that the Committe of Business shall not allow those preachers who marry in the intervail of the Annual Conference double quarteradge.

Daniel Hitt proceeded to read Dctr. Coke's Letter addressed to the Annual Conference, in answer to the letter sent to him from the last Annual Conference.

Daniel Hitt proceeded to read the several cirtificates given by Doctr. Coke to the American Connection.

The Conference Resolve that the cirtificates be entered on the Journals. They are as follows:

I do solemly engage by this instrement that I never will by virtue of my office as Superintendent of the Methodist Church in the United States of America Exercise any government whatever, in the Said Methodist Church during my absence from the United States, and I do also engage that I will exercise no priveledge in the Said Church when present in the United States, Except that of ordaining according to the Regulations and Laws already Existing or hereafter to be made in the Said Church, and that of presiding when present in Conference and lastly that of travilling at large. Given under my hand the Second Day of May in the Year 1787. THOMAS COKE.

Witnesses: JOHN TUNNEL,
JOHN HAGERTY,
NELSON REED.

Q. If Mr. Asbury dies or declines exercising the office of a

Superintendent, what Shall be done in respect to the peculiar parts of Government Exercised by Mr. Asbury alone?

A. Those peculiar powers of Government Shall Revert to all intents and purposes into the hands of the Conference, and they Shall have full authority to invest those powers in the hands of any person or persons, they may think proper; and the Superintendant or Superintendants then in being Shall have no Nagative voice in Respect to the above Nomination, but if Absolutely Necessary the Elders Shall Consecrate the person thus Elected and Nominated by the Conference, any Minute Hitherto passed Notwithstanding. THOMAS COKE.

I offer my Self to my American brethren entirely to there Service all I am and have, with my tallents and Labours in every respect, without any Mental Reservation whatever, To labour among them, and to assist Bishop Asbury, Not to Station the preachers at any time where he is present, but To Exercise all the Episcopal duties when I hold a Conference in his absence and with his Consent, and to visit the West Indies and France when their is an opening, and I can be Spared. T. COKE.

Conference Room, Baltimore, October 27th, 1796.

Bishop Asbury proceeded to ordain to the office of Deacons the following persons to wit: George C. Light, Thomas Hellums, Samuel Sellers, Moses Ashworth, William Virmillion, and William Hitt. Local Preachers ordained, Henry Mallery and James Ward.

The Conference Resolve that the Committee of Address express the Sentiments of this Conference Respecting the Doctor's letter sent in answer to the New York Conference, in a letter to be entered on the Journals.

Solomon Langdon, who formerly was a regular member of the New England Annual Conference, and obtained a regular location Haveing moved into the bounds of the Western Conference, came forward to this Conference and by the vote of the Conference he is priviledged to take his seat as a regular member.

The Conference proceeded to vote a Draft on the Chartered Fund For $190.

The Conference proceeded to vote a Draft on the Book Concern For $300.

Bishop Asbury proceeded to read the several letters from the Mississippi Destrict (i.e.) 2 From Lawner Blackman, Elisha Bowman, Thomas Lasley, and Nathan Barnes.

Bishop Asbury proceeded to read to the Conference a letter from Thomas Wilkerson, Holston Destrict.

The several places purposed for the sitting of the next Western Annual Conference, are as follows: Liberty, Cumberland Destrict; Flemingsbourgh and Salem, Kentucky Destrict; Cincinnatti and Chillecothe, Ohio Destrict.

The Conference proceeded to the examination of the characters of those eligible, and to elect them to the office of Elders.

Mississippi Destrict.

1st. The character of Nathan Barnes examined and it is the opinion of the Conference that he be elected to the office of an Elder, but being absent his ordination is not performed.

2nd. Thomas Lasley's character examined and approved, and he elected to the office of an Elder, but being absent his ordination is not performed.

3rd. Caleb W. Cloud's character examined and approved, the Conference judge proper to elect him to the office of an Elder.

Kentucky Destrict.

1st. The character of Joseph Oglesby examined and approved, it is the opinion of the Conference that he be elected to the office of an Elder.

2nd. The charrecter of Abraham Amos examined and approved, the Conference are of opinion that he be elected to the office of an Elder.

Holston Destrict.

1st. John McClure's character examined and approved, the Conference are of opinion that he be elected to the office of an Elder.

Ohio Destrict.

1st. The character of Adjet McGuier examined, and it appearing to the Conference that some deficulties exist between him and John Sale, the Conference are of oppinion that the case be refered to a Committe for decision, and that the parties be allowed to have the men of their choise. John Sale chose William McKendree; Adjet McGuier, James Ward; and they chose Thomas Milligan. The Committe report to the Conference, that the deficulties are so adjusted as to admit of his election, and they accordingly elect him to the office of an Elder.

2nd. Anthony Houston's character examined before the Conference, the Conference are of oppinion that A. Houston had acted somewhat imprudently by conversing with a young woman. Nothing criminal is stated against him, the Conference are of opinion that he may be elected to the office of an Elder.

The characters of those graduateing to the Elder's office examined before the Conference, William Ellington, Samuel Parker, Joshua Oglesby, William Houston, Richard Browning, Peter Cartwright, Joseph Williams, Miles Harper, James Axley, Benjamin Edge. They are all approved and continued.

The case of John Meek came before the Conference, and after meture deliberation the Conference think proper to grant him a Location.

Resolved that he obtain said Location.

THIRD DAY OF CONFERENCE.

The character of those Graduateing to the office of Decans examined before the Conference, James King,

Milton Ladd, Hector Sandford, Fredrick Hood, Abbott Goddard, Hezekiah Shaw, John Collins, John Travice, John Crane, Joseph Bennett, Sela Paine, Isaac Quinn, and John Clingin, they are all approved and remain on Trial.

1st. Thomas Wilkerson applied to the Conference by letter for a location. The Conference after hearing the contents of his letter and taking his case into consideration, Resolve that he obtain said Location.

2nd. Joshua Oglesby being present, applied to the Conference for a Location, the Conference voted him said Location.

Bishop Asbury proceeded to read to the Conference the Memorial of the New York Annual Conference Addressed to the New England and Succeeding Conferences.

The Conference unanimously voted to concur with the New York Conference in the subject of their Memorial Addressed to the New England and Succeeding Conferences.

Motioned that the Conference proceed to elect 7 members out of this Conference as deligates to represent them in the next General Conference.

Resolved that the number of 7 be elected as Electors to represent us in the next General Conference.

The Bishop proceeded to examine before the Conference the character of all the Elders.

The Bishop proceeded to ordain to the office of Elders the following persons: Caleb W. Cloud, John McClure, Joseph Oglesby, Zadock B. Thackston, Abraham Amos, Adjet McGuier, and Anthony Houston.

The Fourth Day of Conference.

The Conference proceeded to elect by ballet members to represent them in the next General Conference, the following persons were elected, William McKendree,

William Burk, James Ward, Benjamin Lakin, Lawner Blackman, Thomas Milligan, and John Sale.

The Conference proceeded to vote by ballett for the seat of the next Western Annual Conference.

The majority in favor of Liberty, Cumberland Destrict.

The case of Joshua Oglesby, who applied for and obtained a Location, reconsidered, and consents to take a station, the Conference therefore revoke their former vote.

The Conference think proper to establish the same method of defraying the travilling expenses of the deligates to the General Conference as was voted for the anticipated Conference the last year, which method may be seen by reference to page 35th.

The Conference proceeded to make a collection among themselves for the purpose of printing some small and useful pamphlets, to be given away. The collection amounted to $11.16.

The Conference proceeded to elect James Axley to the office of an Elder, provided he be sent on a Mission.

William McKendree proceeded to read a letter imbracing our sentiments respecting Bishop Asbury's conduct toward Doctr. Coke, and likewise expressing our approbation of Bishop Asbury's conduct among us.

The Conference proceeded to examine the Contents of the said letter and are of opinion that the letter be entered on the Journal as follows:

The Conference think proper to take into consideration Doctor Coke's Letter to the New York Conference, which was an answer to his circular letter, in which he complains of the General Conference not fulfilling the ingagements that they made with him, and Mr. Asbury's treating him with a mesterious neglect. As to the former we do not think it necessary for us to examine the case, as the General Conference is not to be tried by us. But as Bishop Asbury is accountable to us and much depend on our Confidence in his faithfulness, we judge it proper to examine the case, and from the Doctor's engagements with the

Connection and Conference, and from the relation in which we are informed he then stood to the British Connection, we are of opinion Bishop Asbury gave no cause of offence.

William McKendree proceeded to read the Report of the Committe of Business. The Conference are of opinion that the Report be received, errors excepted.

Draft on the Chartered Fund $190
Draft on the Book Concern $300
490

Thomas Wilkerson	27 18		00 18
Benjamin Lakin	51 53		
William Pattison	25 00		
James Ward, 6 months	80 00		52 00
Ralph Lotspiech	12 21		
Joshua Oglesby	33 50		5 50
William Houston	17 38		
Richard Browning	35 92		7 92
Joseph Hays, 6 months	22 50		9 00
Peter Cartwright	40 00		12 00
Joseph Williams	14 75		
John McClure	49 57		21 57
Caleb W. Cloud	62 50		34 50
Benjamin Edge	39 65		11 65
Joseph Oglesby	22 27		
Abraham Amos	28 54		00 54
George Askin	15 62		
George C. Light	34 50		6 05
Zadock B. Thackston	50 39		
Thomas Hellums	54 50		26 50
Samuel Sellars	33 62		5 62
David Young	26 14		
Moses Ashworth	35 13		7 13
William Vermillian	44 63		16 63
William Hitt, 9 months	6 00		
Jesse Walker	120 00		67 00
John Travice	60 00		32 00
James King	4 00		
Sela Paine, 6 months	22 50		9 00
Milton Ladd	2 50		
Frederick Hood	22 27		
Isaac Quinn, 6 months	14 00		
Abbott Goddard	60 00		32 00
Hezekiah Shaw	13 14		
John Collins	55 53		
John Crane	12 00		
Joseph Bennett	18 00		
John Clingin, 6 months	33 43		18 43
John Thompson	15 00		
	1,315 40		375 22

Francis Asbury	25 00
Elisha Bowman, Missionary	80 00
	480 22
Ballence in Hand	9 78
	490 00

Given

To Adjet McGuier	7 95
Paid William Burk for the Book in which the Journals are kept	1 83
	9 78

The recommendations, required at last Conference for John Collins and James King, were brought forward and acknowledged. The papers respecting Benjamin Wofford read and the Conference agree to admit the settlement.

The Fifth Day of Conference.

Bishop Asbury proceeded to the examination of those remaining on trial, who were not examined at last Conference, and likewise those who were admitted on trial at this Conference (i.e.) John Collins, Henry Mallerly, Frederick Hood, Sela Paine, Hector Sandford, Jacob Turman, William Mitchel, Isaac Quinn, and Clingin.

The Conference proceeded to make a collection in Conference for the Missionarys to the Mississippi Destrict. The collection amounted to $60.00.

Samuel Parker proceeded to read a letter Addressed to the Brethern in Chillecothe, Cincinnatti, Flemingsbourgh, and Liberty, expressing our thanks for their kind invitations for the seat of the next Western Annual Conference. The Conference are of opinion that a letter be sent to each of the above places.

Bishop Asbury proceeded to ordain James Axley to the office of an Elder, in consequence of his Mission to the Mississippi Destrict. John Sale proceeded to report to the Conference that the Committe have had under their consideration a New and Compleat Collec-

tion of Hymns, which the Committe are of opinion (as far as they have examined,) should be published in our Connection.

It is the opinion of the Conference that the business respecting John Hutt's settlement with the Editors, and General Book Stewards, be referred to John Sale for final settlement.

The Conference voted that the money given by the Conference for the purpose of printing and circulating pamphlets, gratis, be committed to William Burk, for that purpose.

The Conference adjourned to meet at Liberty, Cumberland Destrict, October the First day, 1808.

Signed in and by order of the Conference.

WILLIAM BURK, Secretary. FRANCIS ASBURY.

The following is entered on the Journals of the Annual Conference, by order of the General Conference, in session at Baltimore, May, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand, Eight Hundred, and Eight:

The preachers shall be alowed, for their trouble of selling the Books, not less than 15 nor more than 25 prCent, upon the wholesale price, for all the Books sold by them, but the prices shall be regulated as in the judgment of the Edetors the different Impressions will best afford.

One third of which the Presiding Elder shall have for his trouble. The other two thirds shall be allowed the preachers, who sell them, in their respective Circuits; And the Book Edetors are to pay all the expence of the conveyance of Books to Presiding Elders untill they are within their respective Destricts.

Test: WILLIAM BURK, Secty.

NOTE 8.—"On Monday we opened our conference in great peace and love, and continued sitting, day by day, until Friday noon. A delegation of seven members was chosen to the General Conference. There were thirteen preachers added, and we found

an addition of two thousand two hundred members to the society in these bounds; seven deacons were elected and ordained, and ten elders; two preachers only located; sixty-six preachers were stationed. Finding my work done, and my carriage sold, I ventured once more to take horse, with a determination to visit the frontier settlements on the Great Miami River. We came away, leaving fifty or sixty preachers at the camp meeting near the seat of conference, and got to brother Waugh's for the night." (Asbury's Journal, Vol. III., page 233.)

The appointments for 1807 are given in the General Minutes as follows:

HOLSTON DISTRICT. *Learner Blackman, P. Elder.*

Holston, Caleb W. Cloud, Hezekiah Shaw.
Nollichuckie, Nathan Barnes, Obadiah Edge.
French-Broad, Benjamin Edge.
Clinch, Miles Harper, Thomas Trower.
Powell's Valley, Abbott Goddard.
Carter's Valley, John Henniger.

CUMBERLAND DISTRICT. *James Ward, P. Elder.*

Cumberland, John McClure.
Nashville, Joseph Oglesby, David Young.
Red River, Thomas Lasley.
Barren, Peter Cartwright.
Roaring River, William Vermillion.
Wayne, James King, Sela Paine.
Livingston, Abraham Amos, Thos. Stilwell.
Hartford, John Cragg, William Lewis.
Illinois, John Clingan.
Missouri, Jesse Walker.
Maramack, Edmund Wilcox.
Duck River, Zadok B. Thackston.

KENTUCKY DISTRICT. *Wm. Burke, P. Elder.*

Limestone, W. Houston, J. Turman, M. Layton.
Licking, Milton Ladd.
Lexington, Joseph Hays, Henry Mallory.
Hinkstone, Elisha W. Bowman, Joshua Oglesby.
Danville, George Askin, Samuel Sellers.
Salt River, Adjet McGuire.
Shelby, Thos. Hellums, Josiah Crawford.
Silver Creek, Moses Ashworth.

OHIO DISTRICT. *John Sale, P. Elder.*

Miami, Samuel Parker, Hector Sanford.
Mad River, T. Milligan, J. Davisson, W. Mitchell.
White Water, Joseph Williams.
Scioto, John Collins, Joseph Bennett.
Deer Creek, Benj. Lakin, John Crane.
Hockhocking, Ralph Lotspeich, Isaac Quinn.
Fairfield, William Pattison.
Muskingum and Little Kanawha, Solomon Langdon, William Ellington.
Wills Creek, James Watts.
Guyandott, Fredrick Hood.

MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT. *Jacob Young, P. Elder.*

Natchez, Richard Browning.
Wilkinson, John Travis.
Claiborne, Jedediah McMinn.
Appalousas, James Axley.
Washataw, Anthony Houston.

IX.

JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN ANNUAL CONFERENCE, BEGUN AND HELD AT LIBERTY HILL, TENNESSEE, OCTOBER 1ST, 1808.[9]

Those marked thus * absent.

MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE.

Francis Asbury
William McKendree
William Burk
John Sale
Lawner Blackman
Jacob Young
Thomas Milligan
Elisha W. Bowman*
William Pattison
Benjamin Lakin
Ralph Lotspiech
Joseph Hays*
Fredrick Stiers
John McClure
Anthony Houston*
Jesse Walker
Edmond Wilcox
Thomas Hellums*
Samuel Sellers*
David Young
Moses Ashworth
William Virmillion
William Ellington*
Samuel Parker
William Houston
Richard Browning
Peter Cartwright
Miles Harper
Benjamin Edge
Joseph Williams
Zadock B. Thackston
Abraham Amos
Solomon Langdon*
Caleb W. Cloud
Nathan Barnes*
Joseph Oglesby
Thomas Lasley
George Askin
James Ward
Adjet McGuier*
James Davison*
James Watt*
Joshua Oglesby
James Axley
James King
Hector Sandford
Milton Ladd
Fredrick Hood*
Hezekiah Shaw
Abbott Goddard
John Collins
John Travis*
John Crane
Joseph Bennett
Sela Pain
Isaac Quinn
John Clingan
William Mitchel*
Thomas Trower*

The Conference proceeded to admit into full Connection, to elect and ordain to the office of Deacons, David Young, James King, Abbott Goddard, Hezekiah Shaw, Sela Pain, and John Crane.

The charrecters of the following local preachers passed in review before the A. Conference, they were approved and ordained to the office of Deacons, Stephen Ellis, William Potts, Lewis Crane, Rivers Cormack, Henry Tooley, Thomas Williamson. Bales Williams and Joseph Smith's charrecters passed in review, but not being present were not ordained.

The charecters of the following local preachers passed in review before the A. Conference, and they stood approved, Andrew Baley, William Stepherson, John Watson, John C. Sloiom, Ludwick Davis, Hosea Rigg, Charles Metheny, David Hogges, Newit Vick, Fletcher Sulivan, John Nixon, and John Akin.

The Conference proceeded to elect a Committe of Finance, and the following persons were declared elected, John Sale, Samuel Parker, and Lawner Blackman. Bishop Asbury directed John Sale to collect the amount of deficiencies.

Monday Morning, 3 Day of Conference.

John Johnston, William B. Elgin, Isaac McCown, John Lewis, and Isaac Lindsey passed an examination before the Conference. Likewise John Collins, Milton Ladd, Isaac Quinn, John Clingan, Hector Sanford, & Joseph Bennett were examined before the Conference.

John Collins, who had been a Local Deacon before he travilled, was recommended and elected to the Elder's office.

Fredrick Hood, who had travilled out his probation, and in consequence of neglence in filling his appointments and haveing failed to send any account to the

Annual Conference, they thought proper to discontinue him.

John Travis being absent in consequence of sickness, his case was brought into view and laid over until Jacob Young could be present.

The charrecter of Thomas Hellums, Samuel Sellars, David Young, and Moses Ashworth examined and their probation continued.

MONDAY EVENING, 3RD DAY OF C.

William Ellington applied for and obtained a Location. The charrecter of Samuel Parker, William Houston, Richard Browning, Peter Cartwright, Miles Harper, Benjamin Edge, and Joshua Oglesby were examined and they elected to the office of Elders.

Joseph Williams being eligable to the Elder's office, the Conference proceeded to try his election. 16 For 21 Against.

Jacob Young being present, the Conference proceeded to receive John Travice and elect him to the office of a Deacon.

The Conference proceeded to determine by vote that an address be sent to our Brethern throughout the bounds of the Western Annual Conference to raise supplys for the Annual deficencies. The Conference proceeded to elect Banjamin Lakin, Caleb W. Cloud, and Milton Ladd as a Committe to draw up an address to our Brethern, to raise supplies for the Deficencies, and to Adjust the Book accounts of the Presiding Elders.

TUESDAY MORNING, 4TH DAY OF C.

The Committee of Finance reported.

Bishop Asbury proceeded to read several letters addressed to the Conference for the Seat of the next Annual Conference. 1st, from Nashville Circuit, Douglasses Meeting House. 2nd, from Nolechuckie Circuit,

Ebenezer M. House. 3rd, from Cincinnatti, State of Ohio—

The preachers Remaining on Trial are as follows: John Henager, John Crag, William Lewis, Thomas Dirkman, Edmond Wilcox, Jedediah McMin, Jacob Turman, William Mitchel, Josiah Crawford, Thomas Stilwell, and Henry Mallory. Their Charrecters being examined and approved, were continued.

The case of Edmond Wilcox being somewhat peculiar, and his name haveing stood on the Minutes for two years, and he haveing travilled nearly 4 years, the Conference thought proper to admit him into full Connection and elected him to the office of a Deacon.

Thomas Trower's case came before the Conference, and after examining the Early Minutes it was found that he was Received on Trial at the Virginia Conference 2nd of February, 1806, and after enquireing into his charecter it was found that he promised usefulness, and the Conference proceeded to receive him into full Connection and elected him to the office of a Deacon.

The Bishop proceeded to read a letter Addressed to the Conference from Anthony Houston.

James Quinn who formerly had been a member of Conference and Located two years past. The Conference agree that he be Readmitted into the Travilling Connection.

Philip Gatch sent a request by letter to the Annual Conference requesting that he might have a station, the Conference thought proper to leave it with Bro. John Sale to imploy him if he should give such satisfaction as the Conference has required.

William Young came properly recommended from the Holston Quarterly Meeting Conference; he is about 22 years of age. Not examined, the Conference agree to receive him.

John Bowman came properly recommended from the

Quarterly Meeting Conference Nolichuckie Circuit. He was born in the year 1773 in Virginia, Shannadore County, partly raised in Tennessee; not examined but admitted on Trial.

Horitio Barnes came recommended from Nolichuckie Circuit; the Quarterly Meeting Conference gave him a recommendation, but from information it appears that he has lately come from the Monongahela Destrict and the Conference think that his recommendation is rather doubtful; not examined.

WEDNESDAY MORNING 5 DAY OF CONF.

The following persons came properly recommended from their several Quarterly Meeting Conferences: William Winans from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of the Miami Circuit, Lewis Anderson from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Barren Circuit, John Lewis from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of the Roaring River Circuit, Isaac McCown from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Wayn Circuit, David Hardisty from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Danville Circuit, Richard Richards from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of French Broad Ct., William B. Elgin from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Roaring River Circuit, John Johnston from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Nashville Circuit, Isaac Lindsey from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Nashville Ct., John Sinclair from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Nashville Ct., Wood Loyed from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Dixon Circuit, Moses Crume from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Whitewater Circuit, Eli Truett from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Limeston Circuit. The Conference are of opinion that they may be admitted on Trial as Travilling Preachers.

James Guinn proposed himselves as a Mitionary Remaining on Trial and his name to stand among the

Deacons on the minutes. James Blair came properly recommended from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Limestone Circuit and after the Conference had taken his case under meture deliberation they think best to leave the Presiding Elder at liberty to imploy him if it be found that his circumstances will admit of it. Moses Black re-admitted.

Robert Cloud sent by Ralph Lotspiech for a Missionary Station, the Conference judge it proper to grant him such a Station.

The charrecters of the preachers examined one by one before the Conference. The Committee appointed to draw up an Address reported, stateing our insolvency and requesting our Brethren to rais an annual subscription to send to Conference to meet the deficencies. The conference proceeded to rais a subscription among themselves to meet the deficencies at the next Annual Conference.

The Conference granted William Burk a Supernumerary Station. At the request of the Conference Lawner Blackman proceeded to read a letter from Elisha W. Bowman addressed to him in answer to some charges brought against him when his charecter passed before the Conference.

The Conference proceeded to appoint a Committee consisting of three (ei) the Presiding Elder of the Kentucky Destrict, Joshua Oglesby, and William Burk, to converce with Elisha W. Bowman on the subject of the above refered to charges. Joseph Hays applied to the Conference by letter for a Location, the Conference thought proper to grant him a Location.

Adjet McGuier applied by letter for a Location and the Conference are of opinion that he should be Located. James Davison applied for a Location, the (Conference) granted the said Location.

THIRSDAY MORNING 6TH DAY OF CONF.

John Sale from the Committee of Finance reported a second time and the Conference are of opinion that the report as read be received.

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTE.

The whole amount of Deficiency is found to be $2,552 95
And the Moneys to meet the difficencies are as follows,
Viz:

Draft on the Book Concern	$ 300 00
Draft on the Chartered Fund	170 00
Sent by the Ohio Destrict	21 60
Making in the whole	$ 491 60

So that we find after all the moneys are disposed of we are Insolvent $2,016 34½

What each preacher received from the Circuits, &c.		What was given to make up the deficencies; at Conference appropriated as follows:	
Francis Asbury	$ 25 00	.....	$ 5 00
William McKendree	25 00	.....	15 00
William Burk	160 00	.....	.....
John Sale	192 00	.....	.....
Lawner Blackman	45 00	.....	16 81
Jacob Young	55 00	.....	17 44
Thomas Milligan	62 83	.....	.....
Elisha W. Bowman	41 62	.....	.....
William Pattison	55 00	.....	.....
Benjamin Lakin	100 10½	.....	8 00
Ralph Lotspiech	80 00	.....	.....
Joseph Hays	71 00	.....	.....
Fredrick Etiers, 6 months..	40 00	.....	.....
John McClure	45 00	.....	30 00
Zadock B. Thackston	90 00	.....	60 00
Abraham Amos	80 00	.....	.....
Solomon Langdon	90 00	.....	60 00
Caleb W. Cloud	70 00	.....	.....
Nathan Barnes	30 00	.....	.....
Joseph Oglesby	73 14½	.....	.....
Thomas Lasley	50 00	.....	16 38
George Askin	90 00	.....	27 50
James Ward	147 52	.....	10 00
Adjet McGuier	90 00	.....	20 53
James Davison, 6 months...	24 00	.....	.....
James Watt, 6 months	24 00	.....	.....
James Axley	45 00	.....	30 00
Anthony Houston	63 00	.....	.....
Jesse Walker	60 00	.....	40 98

What each preacher received from the Circuits, &c.		What was given to make up the deficencies; at Conference appropriated as follows:	
Thomas Hellums	49 02		
Samuel Sellers	43 82		1 18
David Young	73 14½		
Moses Ashworth	45 39		
William Virmillion	51 01		
Samuel Parker	80 00		
William Houston	65 28		
Richard Browning	45 00		
Peter Cartwright	65 00		25 00
Miles Harper	80 00		
Benjamin Edge	57 00		
James King	45 00		
Joseph Williams	53 50		
Hector Sanford	80 00		
Milton Ladd	60 25		25 00
Fredrick Hood	35 00		34 90
Hezekiah Shaw	52 00		
Abbott Goddard	45 20¼		5 79½
John Collins	126 50		
John Travis	55 00		17 00
John Crane	46 05		
Joseph Bennett	75 75		
Sela Pain	45 00		2 86
Isaac Quinn	80 00		
John Clingan	61 75		
John Henagar	57 00		
John Crag	90 00		7 58½
William Lewis	90 00		
Thomas Kirkman	55 94		
Edmond Wilcox	45 00		20 00
Jedediah McMin	45 00		11 00
Jacob Turman	50 75		
Josiah Crawford	73 00		
Thomas Stilwell	48 01		
Henry Mallory	139 25		
Thomas Trower, 6 months	29 95		
Joshua Oglesby	76 86		
Valentine Cook	100 00		
William Mitchel	61 00		
			$498 46

We find the money Collected among the Preachers that was not disposed of to be $69.50, which is expended as follows, Viz:

William Lewis	$22 50
Valentine Cook	5 00
Banjamin Edge	15 00
Isaac McCown	15 00

John McClure	7 50
Thomas Hellums	7 50
	72 50

A collection was made among the Committee and others to the amount of $3 which will account for the difference.

Signed by the Committee.

JOHN SALE,
LAWNER BLACKMAN,
SAMUEL PARKER.

The Conference proceeded to take a vote that the old rule be revived of fasting and abstinance on all Fridays in the year. Carried.

The Conference voted that the next Western Annual Conference be held at Cincinnati on the 30th day of September, 1809.

The Conference resolved that the Preachers be requested to make a return to the next Annual Conference of all the Licensed Preachers, Local Deacons, and Elders.

John Sale proceeded to read an anonimous letter addressed to him respecting a pamphlet intitled The Female Instructor or Matron's Address to her Daughters. The Conference are determined not to give circulation to any pamphlets or publications that do not come under the patronage of the General or Annual Conferences.

Zadock B. Thackston received a Supernumerary Station. William Burk proceeded to read several resolutions sent from the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Hinkston and Limestones Circuits, stateing the necessity of a rule on the subject of slavery as it respects buying and selling. William Burk proceeded to read the remonstrance of the Local Preachers from Lexington and Salt River Circuits respecting the ordination of Local Deacons to the office of Elders. Bishop McKendree proceeded to read an answer to the above remonstrance.

William Burk proceeded to read an Address to the Annual Conference, setting forth the necessity of a rule on the subject of buying and selling slaves. Signed by James Guinn.

FRIDAY MORNING 7TH DAY OF CONF.

We move that the subject of slavery be considered and some dicisive rule be made on that subject. John Collins, Samuel Parker.

The Conference proceeded to appoint a Committee to draft a Rule on the Subject of Slavery. Resolved that John Sale, Banjamin Lakin, and William Burk be appointed said Committe.

The case of Durham Turner, a Local Preacher from Barren Circuit, came before the Conference in the form of an appeal. The Conference confirmed the judgment of the Quarterly Meeting Conference.

By information received from James Ward respecting John Watson, a Local Preacher from Wayn Circuit, the Conference are of opinion that he may be received on trial as a Travilling Preacher. After examination he was ordained a Deacon. William Burk reported from the Committe appointed to draft a Rule on the Subject of Slavery.

The Conference proceeded to the examination of the report. On the vote being taken, the majority negatived the report and ordered that the same lay on the table for amendment. It was moved and seconded that the above report continue to lay on the table, and that the address signed by James Guinn be taken up and considered. The Conference determine to take up the said address, and the same was negatived. Lawner Blackman proceeded to read a letter addressed to Valentine Cook on the subject of his Mission, in which he is informed that the Conference will pay him when able.

The Committe appointed to examine the Book accounts of the Presiding Elders reported. The report was received by the Conference. The report of the Committe appointed to Draft a Rule on the Subject of Slavery, haveing been amended, the Conference proceeded to take a vote on the report as amended and adopted the following regulations:

WESTERN ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

Quest. What method shall be taken with a member of our Society that shall enter into the Slave Trade and shall buy or sell a Slave or Slaves?

Answer. Every preacher who has the charge of a Circuit shall upon information received cite every such member or members so buying or selling a Slave or Slaves to appear at the insueing Quarterly Meeting Conference and there to submit his or their case to the judgment of the said Quarterly Meeting Conference who shall proceed to determine wheather the Person or Persons have purchased or sold such Slave or Slaves in a case of mercy or humanity or from speculative motives, and if a majority of the Quarterly Meeting Conference judge that they have bought or sold with such speculative motives they shall accordingly expel every such Person or Persons.

And in case the Presedent of the Quarterly Meeting Conference should differ in judgment from the majority and think they have retained the Person or Persons improperly, he may refer his or their case to the insueing Annual Conference and if any Person or Persons think they are injured by the dicision of the Quarterly Meeting Conference such Person or Persons shall be allowed an appeal to the insueing Annual Conference, provided they signify the same to the Quarterly Meeting Conference at the time of trial, and the Presedent of the Quarterly Meeting Conference shall cause the minutes of such trial to be laid before the Annual Conference who shall judge and finally determine in every such case. FRANCIS ASBURY,
WILLIAM MCKENDREE.

Liberty Hill, Tennessee, October 7th, 1808.
WILLIAM BURK, Secty.

The Conference proceeded to examine the Accounts of the Trustees of the Charity Fund. It was motioned

and seconded that the Trustees of the Charity Fund be desolved. Resolved that the Trustees of the Charity Fund be disolved.

The Conference proceeded to receive the Address of the Committee Appointed to draw up an Address to our Brethern requesting them to make an Annual Collection by Subscription or otherwise to meet the distresses of the most indegent, and as far as possible to meet the deficencies of the Preachers.

Resolved that the Address be received and signed by the Bishops, and that a coppy of the same be put into the hands of the assistant of every Circuit.

LIBERTY HILL, TENNESSEE, October 7th, 1808.

The Western Conference Assembled to all under Her Patronage Sendeth Greeting.

Dear Brethren: We feel ourselves as much as ever interested in the happiness of our fellow creatures and are conscious that a large field is opening in almost every direction for the spread of the Gospel. Hundreds and thousands are inviteing us to come to their help, many valuable men are willing to take up their Cross and brook all the difficulties of an itenerant life in order to spread the gospel of the Redeemer's Kingdom, but we lack means for their supply, for after all the exertions that have been made in the several Circuits and the conscientious application of $470, which is all we receive from the Book Concern and Chartered Fund, we still find ourselves insolvent $2,016.34½. We have therefore thought proper to address you on the occasion and solicit your assistance to inable us to spread useful knowledge and do all the good we possibly can.

We hope, dear Brethren, you will not be backward in setting your hands to paper and giving us your word that you will pay us whatever sums you may think proper to affix to your names. We wish you to understand us, we do not mean that these collections are to be applied to the preachers as their Quarterage. We hope you will do all you can to make up their preachers their allowance in their several Circuits, and that this extra collection be transmitted to the Annual Conference to meet the destresses of the more indegent. We assure you dear Brethern that we shall be particular in the distrebution of whatever sum or sums you may please to forward to us.

We conclude by praying that God may prosper you in your souls and bodies, in your baskett and store, and when our toils and sufferings are at an end we hope to meet you in the land of Rest.

We are, dear Brethern, yours in the bonds of a peacable Gospel.

WILLIAM BURK, Secty. FRANCIS ASBURY,
WILLIAM MCKENDREE.

The Conference proceeded to make a settlement with the deligates to the last General Conference, the Conference and the deligates agree to ballance accounts.

The Conference directed that $33.50 now in the hands of the former Trustees of the Charity Fund be deposited with William Burk for the use and benifit of the Trustees of Bethel Academy.

Bishop Asbury proceeded to give the Conference some advice respecting the important subject of the mesterious doctrine of the Trinity, Divinity, and Humanity of Christ in which he advises all to attend to the language of Scripture.

The Conference proceed to make a collection to pay for the Printing of Pamphlets which are to be given away and which William Burk by the direction of the last Conference had printed. The collection amounted to $10.

The Stations being read, the Conference adjourned to meet again at Cincinnati, State of Ohio, September the 30th, 1809.

Signed in and by order of the Conference.

WILLIAM BURK, Secty. FRANCIS ASBURY,
WILLIAM MCKENDREE.

NOTE 9.—To the Conference of 1808 Bishop Asbury came, in an "afflicted state," by way of Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Kentucky, preaching, ordaining, and counciling as he came. Traveling with him is Martin Boehm, who occasionally preaches in German. Among the places where the Bishop preached are Bush Creek, Chillicothe, Deer Creek Camp Meeting, Xenia, Little

Miami, Lawrenceburg, in Indiana, and at many of the cabins along the way. He spent from September 8 to October 1 passing through Kentucky. In his Journal for October 1 is this entry: "I began conference. I preached twice on the Sabbath day; and again on Tuesday. Our conference was a camp-meeting, where the preachers ate and slept in tents. We sat six hours a day, stationed eighty-three preachers, and all was peace. On Friday the sacrament was administered, and we hope there were souls converted, and strengthened, and sanctified. We made a regulation respecting slavery; it was, that no member of society, or preacher, should sell or buy a slave unjustly, inhumanly, or covetously; the case, on complaint, to be examined for a member by the quarterly meeting; and for a preacher an appeal to an annual conference. Where the guilt was proved the offender to be expelled. The families of the Hills, Sewalls, and Cannon, were greatly and affectionately attentive to us."

Returning east, the Bishop and his party crossed the mountains into North Carolina. Of the month of October this year (1808), the Bishop says: "It has been a serious October to me; I have laboured and suffered; but I have lived near to God." (Asbury's Journal, Vol. III., pages 247-252.)

The appointments for 1808, as given in the General Minutes, were as follows:

HOLSTON DISTRICT. *Learner Blackman, P. Elder.*

Holston, William Pattison, Moses Ashworth.
Watauga, Thomas Milligan.
Nollichuckie, Thomas Trower, Horatio Barnes.
French-Broad, Nathan Barnes, Isaac Lindsey.
Clinch, Isaac Quinn, Lewis Anderson.
Powell's Valley, James Axley.
Carter's Valley, Moses Black.
Tennessee Valley, Milton Ladd.

CUMBERLAND DISTRICT. *Miles Harper, P. Elder.*

Nashville, Elisha W. Bowman, William Virmillion.
Red River, Fredrick Stier.
Barren, Joseph Bennett, John Lewis.
Roaring River, Zadok B. Thackston, John Travis.
Livingston, Thomas Kirkman.
Hartford, Samuel Sellers, Jacob Turman.
Duck River, John Cragg.
Elk, Thomas Stilwell.

Dixon, William Lewis.
James Guinn, missionary.

KENTUCKY DISTRICT. *James Ward, P. Elder.*

Limestone, James King, Wm. Winans.
Licking, John Clingan.
Lexington, Caleb W. Cloud, William B. Elgin.
Danville, David Hardesty, John Henninger.
Salt River, Peter Cartwright.
Shelby, George Askin, Henry Mallory.
Green River, John Watson, Richard Richards.
Wayne, Sela Paine.
Cumberland, Richard Browning.
Hinkstone, William Burke, Eli Truitt, J. Blair.
Fleming, Joshua Oglesby, Edmund Wilcox.

MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT. *John McClure, P. Elder.*

Natchez, Thomas Hellums.
Wilkinson, Jedediah McMinn.
Claiborne, Anthony Houston.
Appalousas, Benjamin Edge
Washataw, Isaac McKowen.

INDIANA DISTRICT. *Samuel Parker, P. Elder.*

Illinois, Jesse Walker.
Missouri, Abraham Amos.
Maramack, Joseph Oglesby.
Cold Water, John Crane.
White Water, Hector Sanford, Moses Crume.
Silver Creek, Josiah Crawford.

MIAMI DISTRICT. *John Sale, P. Elder.*

Cincinnati, Wm. Houston, John Sinclair.
Mad River, Hezekiah Shaw, Wm. Young, S. Henkle.
Scioto, Abbott Goddard, Joseph Williams.
Deer Creek, John Collins, Wood Lloyd.
Hockhocking, Benj. Lakin, John Johnson.
White Oak, David Young.

MUSKINGUM DISTRICT. *James Quinn, P. Elder.*

Fairfield, Ralph Lotspeich, John Bowman.
Wills Creek, James Watts, Wm. Young last six months.
West Wheeling, Jacob Young, Thomas Church.
Marietta, Solomon Langdon.
Little Kanawha, William Mitchell.
Guyandott, John Holmes.
Leading Creek, Thomas Lasley.

X.

JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN CONFERENCE BEGUN AND HELD AT CINCINNATI, STATE OF OHIO, SEPTEMBER THE 30TH, 1809.[10]

MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE.

Those marked * not present.

Francis Asbury, Bishop
William McKendree, Bishop
Lawner Blackman
William Pattison
Moses Ashworth*
Nathan Barnes*
Isaac Quinn
James Axley
Thomas Milligan*
Milton Ladd
Miles Harper
Elisha W. Bowman*
William Vermillion*
Frederick Stire
Joseph Bennett
Zadock B. Thackston*
John Travis
Samuel Sellars
Samuel Parker
Jesse Walker
John Oglesby
Abraham Amos
John Crane*
Hector Sanford*
John McClure*
Thomas Hellums*
Anthony Houston
Benjamin Edge
James Ward
William Burk
Joshua Oglesby
Edmond Wilcox
James King
John Clingon
Caleb W. Cloud
George Askin
Peter Cartwright
Sela Pain
Richard Browning*
John Sale
Hezekiah Shaw
Abbott Goddard
Joseph Williams
John Collim
Benjamin Lakin
William Houston
David Young
James Quinn
Ralph Lotspiech
Jacob Young
Thomas Lasley
Solomon Langdon
Robert Cloud
Thomas Trower

ADMITTED AS MEMBERS

John Henniger
John Cragg*
William Lewis
Jedidiah McMin*
Jacob Turman
William Mitchel
Josiah Crawford
Thomas Stilwell
Henry Maloney
Thomas Church*

Both the Bishops and a Majority of the Conference being present, they proceeded to business, Bishop Asbury in the Chare. The hours agreed upon for the sitting of the Conference are as follows, At 9 oc in the Morning and 3 oc in the Afternoon to Adjourn at 12 oc and at 5 Afternoon. It is Likewise agreed that Henry Boehm be admitted to have a seat among us in Conference and should Daniel Hitt come duering the time of Conference he may be priviladged the same as Brother H. Boehm.

It is further agreed that no one leave the Conference Room without first giveing notise.

Brother John Sale moved that the Conference proceed to nominate 5 as a Committe of Appropriation.

Lawner Blackman moved that the number consist of 3. The Question being taken the Conference are of Opinion that the number consist of 5.

The votes being taken by ballott it appears that Samuel Parker, Lawner Blackman, John Sale, John Collins, and William Burk are hereby appointed said Committe.

The Conference proceeded to make a Draft on the Chartered Fund for $140 and likewise a Draft on the Book Concern for $300.

Satuerday Afternoon Bishop Asbury in the Chare.

The Conference proceeded to collect the money subscribed by the preachers at Last, which amounted to $85.00. The Conference proceeded to receive the money collected from the different Districts according to the plan proposed by the last Annual Conference, (viz)

From Holston Destrict.	$ 1 00	5 Muskingum Do	$.....
2 Cumberland Do	80 00	6 Indianna Do	$.....
3 Kentucky Do	164 87½	7 Mississippi Do	$.....
4 Miami Do	73 25		

The whole amount collected by the subscription $320.-12 1-2.

By the direction of the Bishop John Sale proceeded to read a letter from John McClure, Presiding Elder in the Mississippi Destrict, addressed to the Bishops and Conference.

Monday Morning Bishop McKendree in the Chare.

The Conference meet according to appointment.

And William Burk from the Committe of Appropriations proceeded to read their report so far as they had progressed and the Conference agree to receive the following report:

On Satuerday Evening 7 oc the Committe of Appropriations meet according to appointment consisting of John Sale, Lawner Blackman, Samuel Parker, John Collins, and William Burk. They proceeded to organize themselves in the following manner, John Sale, Presedent and William Burk Secratary, and they accordingly proceeded to business.

1. It is the opinion of the Committe that the following be submitted to the Conference as a Proper Method to Establish Uniformity in Respect to Travilling Expenses: 1 Horse Shewing 2 Tavern Bills 3 Feredge's 4 Turn pikes 5 Tole Bridge's 6th and Lastly that the Bishops are to be considered as Exempt cases, and therefore they are to be Allowed as Expenses whatever they may pay for official Letters and for Persons to Conduct them from Place to Place.

2. Resolved by the Committe that we will only destribute the sums from the Chartered fund and Book Concern to those who are defficient, and that the surplus collections be disposed of at the discretion of the Committe to the most necesitous by the approbation of the Conference.

3. Resolved that if a preacher neglect his circuit in the intervaels of the Annual Conference that he shall be subject to a deduction of his allowance if he be deficient.

John Henigar's case before the Conference for admission, the Conference are of opinion that he be admitted and they elect him to the office of a Deacon.

John Cragg's case before the Conference for admission, the Conference are of opinion that he be admitted and they elect him to the office of a Deacon.

William Lewis's case before the Conference for ad-

mission, the Conference are of opinion that he be admitted and they elect him to the office of a Deacon.

Thomas Kirkman's case before the Conference for admission, the Conference are of opinion that considering his Local Situation, bodily debility and want of Attention to his Circuit, that he be discontinued.

Jedidiah McMin's case before the Conference for admission, the Conference are of opinion that he be admitted, and elect him to the office of a Deacon.

Jacob Turman's case before the Conference for admission, the Conference are of opinion that he be admitted and they elect him to the office of a Deacon.

William Mitchel's case before the Conference for admission, the Conference are of opinion that he be admitted and they elect him to the office of a Deacon.

Josiah Crawford's case before the Conference for admission, the Conference are of opinion that he be admitted and they elect him to the office of a Deacon.

Thomas Stilwell's case before the Conference for admission, the Conference are of opinion that he be admitted and they elect him to the office of a Deacon.

Henry Mallory's case before the Conference for admission, the Conference are of opinion that he be admitted and they accordingly admit as a Travilling preacher.

James Gwinn's case before the Conference for admission, the Conference are of opinion that he be discontinued.

Monday Afternoon Bishop McKendree in the Chare.

The cases and charrecters of those purposed as Local Preachers, for Deacons Orders came before the Conference, and it is the opinion of the Conference that following Persons be elected (viz) Elijah Sparkes, Laban Brazer, Peter Hastings, Joseph Joslin, Joseph White, Joseph Proctor, William Duglass, Thomas Mitchel, and Charles Holliday.

Tuesday Morning Bishop McKendree in the Chare.

The Conference proceeded to finish the cases and charrecters of Local Preachers applying for Deacons Orders as follows, Elijah Sutton, Archabold McElory, Henry Thompson, William Roggers, Warrick Bristoo, Benjamin Bonham, Elias Turner, Cornelious McGuier, Zachues Queshnbury, John Powers, Edward Hall, and Robert Daugherty,

The charrecter of Thomas Trower and John Travice, who were elected to Deacons orders last Conference, but were not Ordained in consequence of their not being Present there charecters stood approved before the Conference when examined.

Tuesday Afternoon Bishop McKendree in the Chare.

The Conference proceeded to Answer the 7 Question (I E) Who have Located this year? Answered as follows, Thomas Milligan, Nathan Barnes, Moses Ashworth, William Virmillion, Thomas Church, Joseph Oglesby, Edmond Wilcox, and John Oglesby.

Elisha W. Bowman applied by letter to the Conference for a Location, it is the opinion of the Conference that he be placed among the Superanuated.

It was moved by William Burk that the Award of the Committe Respecting Elisha W. Bowman be entered on the Journal, the vote being taken, it was ordered that the same be inserted.

Pursuant to a Resolution of the Western Annual Conference Held at Liberty Hill, Cumberland, Tennessee, October, 1808, we the Committe according to the instructions given have Waited on the Rev. Elisha W. Bowman, and have Convesed with him on the Substance of the Complaints or Charges Exhibited against him at Said Conference.

And So far as we are Capable of Judging, think the Complaints or Charges groundless, and that their is no Reason of Complaint against him.

As Witness Our hands — James Ward.
Monday October 31st 1808. — William Burk.

[At this point in the Journal the handwriting changes, though Burk continues to be the Secretary. The writing resembles that of Learner Blackman, who was the Secretary for the session of 1811.—*Editor.*]

Robert Miller a Local Preacher in Flemming Circuit was Recommended at the Quarterly Meeting Conference for Deacons orders—but thro' forgetfulness no written Recommendation came forward to the Annual Conference. But the Annual Conference are of opinion that in this case the regular Method be dispinsed with & the Conference elect him to the Office of a Deacon.

The Cases and Characters of those who remain on trial for Elders office examined before the conference & nothing alledged against any of them.

Wednesday Morning Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

John Sale moved that the Conference allow him a certain Discount on some damaged Books sent to his District from the Book Steward, the Conference are of oppinion that the Sd. Discount be allowed him.

John Shields forwarded a note to the Bishops & Conference stating his dissatisfaction concerning the negative put on his recommendation for Deacon's orders on which the Conference are of oppinion that there be a Special Committee appointed to converse with him on the subject, and the Committee which was appointed on this Occasion was to consist of the four following persons, John Sale, James Quinn, John Collins & William Burk.

The Conference proceed to examine the characters of those eligible to the office of Elders on which the Conference are of oppinion that the following persons be and are hereby elected to that Office.—Thomas Hellums,* Samuel Sellars, & David Young.

Joseph Williams's case came next before the Conference. On mature deliberation they are of oppinion 1st That he shall not be Elected to the Office of an Elder

2nd That it is the Oppinion of the Conference He shall not be employed any longer as a Travelling Preacher 3rd And Lastly that he shall receive a Location & they Accordingly Give him Sd. Location.

John Holms from the Baltimore Conference his case came before the Conference & after examining into his character the Conference are of oppinion that he be elected to the Office of an Elder.

The Conference proceeded to the examination of the characters of those who continue on Trial. They are as follows, William Young, John Bowman, who are continued, But on Examining duly into the case of Horatio Barnes, the Conference are of oppinion that not for any immorality but from a consideration of the irregularity of his mind and Actions he be discontinued.

WEDNESDAY IN THE AFTERNOON BISHOP MCKENDREE IN THE CHAIR.

William Winan's case & character before the Conference. It is the oppinion of the Conference that he remain on Trial & that BP. McKendree give him a severe reprimand for his conduct & that this be done before the Conference, his conduct which is deemed improper is his making proposals of marriage to the Sisters & his general familiarity with the fair.

John Martin Local Preacher present before the Conference praying that he may have an Appeal to this Annual Conference from the judgement of the Deer Creek Quarterly Meeting Conference who had suspended him from Official Services, it is the opinion of the Conference that *his case does* not come before them in consequence of its being only a *Suspension* from Official Services.

The Conference then proceeded to resume the business of examining the cases & characters of those who remain on Trial. (viz) Lewis Anderson, John Lewis,

Isaac McCown, Richard Richards, William B. Elgin, John Johnston, Isaac Lindsay, Moses Crume, Eli Truitt, John Watson, & James Blair,—*Nothing stated against any of them.*

Thursday Morning Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

Tho. Scott Local Preacher from Deer Creek Quarterly Meeting Conference now before the Conference. Praying that he may have an Appeal to this Annual Conference from the judgement of Sd. Quarterly Meeting Conference; The Chair gave it as his oppinion that the Appeal might properly lay before this Conference, a vote being taken the Conference concured in oppinion. The Legality of the Appeal was objected to in consequence of his not having signified his intention of Appealing at the Quarter Meeting Conference. But as said T. Scott was unavoidably absent at the time of Quarterly Meeting it is the oppinion of this Conference that the case does properly come before them. Upon the Chair giving it as his oppinion that the Appeal could not be acted upon at this Conference for want of the necessary documents or papers the vote being taken the Majority of the Conference differed in Oppinion.

It is further determined in the Conference by vote that they will continue in cession until the business be finished. On which the following paper was laid upon the Table:

Cincinnati Annual Conference.

A charge exhibited against Tho. Scott before the Quarterly Meeting Conference held at White Browns for Deer Creek Circuit, August 26, 1809, was as follows (Viz) that he attended a Berbecue in the Town of Chilicothe on the 4th of July.

October 5th 1809.

After taking into view the complete State of the Case the Conference are of oppinion that the whole of the Business be sent back as unfinished to the said Quarterly Meeting Conference of Deer Creek Circuit &

there to have the same adjusted & that Caleb W. Cloud & Tho. Stillwell be & are hereby appointed to write a letter of Conciliation to the said Quarterly Meeting Conference.

Thursday Afternoon Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

Bishop McKendree proceeded to give William Winans a reprimand before the Conference for his improper conduct toward the Female Sex especially his making proposals of Marriage in an improper way.

It is moved by Samuel Parker & seconded by John Collins that James Gwin's case be taken up & reconsidered—on taking a vote it is resolved that his case be taken up & reconsidered & it becomes the oppinion of the Conference on the reexamination that he remain on trial.

The Conference now proceeded to the first Question of the Minutes for the Itinerary & received the recommendations & examine the cases and characters of those who are to be admitted on Trial. It is the oppinion of the Conference that the following persons be admitted on trial (Viz), 1. James B. Findley, a married man & one child from Scioto Circuit. 2. Alexander Cummins from Hockhockin Circuit a married man with one child. 3. John Brown a single man from Hockhockin Circuit. 4. Walter Griffith came recommended from White Oak Circuit Miami District, the Conference are of opinion that his recommendation be not received but admit that the Presiding Elder shall be at liberty to employ him.

Stephen Timmons from the Scioto Circuit who hath been a travelling Preacher some years ago in the Baltimore & Philadelphia Conferences & after several years Location in the bounds of the Western Conference & now sending forward a request to Travel the Conference complied with said request.

Friday Morning Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

The Committe of Appropriations proceeded to read their report to the Conference which was ordered to lay on the Table for further consideration.

After which the Conference proceed to receive the recommendations of those who are recommended as travelling Preachers.

Holston District.

1. Samuel Hellums from the Nolichuckie Circuit a single man.

Indiana District.

2. Thomas Wright from the Illinois Circuit a married man about 25 years of age.

Kentucky District.

3. Charles Holliday from the Licking Circuit a married man.

4. Henry McDaniel from the Hinkstone Circuit a married man.

Muskingum District.

5. Samuel West from the Kanawha Circuit a single man of about 23 years of age.

Kentucky District.

6. Thos. Nelson from the Danville Circuit a single man.

Friday Afternoon Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

Cumberland District.

The Conference continued the Progress of receiving such as came recommended to the Conference as Travelling Preachers (Viz)

7. Samuel H. Thompson, a young man from Hartford Circuit.

8. John Manley from Livingston Circuit a single man.

9. Francis Travis from Livingston Circuit a single man.

10. Daniel McElyea from Dixon Circuit a single man.

The case of Stephen Timmons reconsidered from a motion made & seconded & the Conference of Oppinion they reverse their former vote respecting him.

The Conference next enter into an examination of the cases & characters of the Elders in which proceedure there was some difficulties suggested respecting improper doctrines having been held forth in some particular points on which it is the opinion of the Chair that a Committee be appointed to examine into doctrines the Committee appointed is the following persons (Viz) Bishop McKendree, Lawner Blackman, Samuel Parker, & William Burk who are to examine the Methodist Doctrines.

Saturday Morning Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

He proceeded to the Examination of the following Persons (Viz) John Bowman, William Young, John Travis, John Watson, James Blair, Eli Truitt, John Henagar, & Josiah Crawford respecting their Faith & practice as Ministers.

Bishop McKendree then proceeded to deliver a Message to Bro. Miles Harper & to give him some advice relating to some of his peculiarities, to be attended to by him in his future conduct.

The Conference proceeded to continue in the progress of the Examinations of the Characters of the Elders &c.

The Conference next proceeded to receive the report of the Committee of Appropriations so far as they have progressed the report states that there is yet in reserve $99.00 yet to be appropriated to necessitous cases.

The Report of the Committee of Appropriations as Follows.

Draft on the Chartered Fund	$140 00
Draft on the Book Concern	300 00
Preachers Collection	85 00
Collection from Holston District	1 00

Collection from Cumberland District	80 00
Collection from Kentucky District	164 87
Collection from Miami District	75 25
Publick Collection at Conference	41 68
	887 80

1. *Holston Destrict.*	Deficient.	Appropriated.
Francis Asbury	$.....	$ 25 00
William McKendree	.....	25 00
Lawner Blackman	10 00	.....
William Pattison	8 00	.....
Moses Ashworth, 3 months	44 00	15 66
Thomas Trower	41 00	1 00
Horatia Barnes	50 00	10 00
Nathan Barnes	45 00	5 00
Isaac Lindsey	53 00	13 00
Isaac Quinn	40 00	.....
Lewis Anderson	40 00	.....
James Axley	40 00	.....
Moses Black, Dees'd, 6 months	66 00	26 00
Thomas Milligan	15 00	.....
Milton Ladd	56 00	16 00
	508 00	136 66

2. *Cumberland Destrict.*		
Miles Harper	.....	.....
Elisha W. Bowman	.....	.....
William Vermillion	40 00	.....
Frederic Stier	12 70	.....
Joseph Bennett	39 63	.....
John Lewis	.....	.....
Zadock B. Thackston	122 48	42 48
John Travise	55 50	15 50
Thomas Kirkman	92 50	12 50
Samuel Sellers	34 50	.....
Jacob Turman	41 69	1 69
William Lewis	76 51	.....
John Crag	99 78	19 78
Thomas Stilwell	47 25	7 25
James Gwinn, 3 months	25 00	.....
	687 54	99 20

3. *Indianna Destrict.*		
Samuel Parker	62 50	22 50
Jesse Walker	89 00	9 00
Joseph Oglesby, 9 months	60 00	30 00
Abraham Amos	64 58	24 58
John Crane	71 00	31 00
Hector Sanford	33 75	.....
Moses Crume	89 00	9 00
Josiah Crawford	30 98	.....
	500 81	126 08

4. *Mississippi Destrict.*

	Deficient.	Appropriated.
John McClure	.....	.....
Thomas Hellums	.....	.....
Jedediah McMin	.....	.....
Anthony Houston	32 00	.....
Benjamin Edge	70 00	30 00
Isaac McCown	.....	.....
	102 00	30 00

5. *Kentucky Destrict.*

James Ward	36 40	.....
Eli Truitt	100 26	20 26
James Blair	79 54	.....
Wm. Burk	18 00	.....
Joshua Oglesby, 6 months	36 58	13 58
Edmond Wilcox	9 33	.....
James King	23 34	.....
Wm. Winin	23 34	.....
John Clingon	39 00	.....
Caleb W. Cloud	13 00	.....
Wm. B. Elgin	40 00	.....
George Askin	51 00	.....
Henry Mallory	51 00	.....
Peter Cartwright, 6 months	57 67	17 67
John Watson	143 00	26 00
Richard Richards	63 00	26 00
Sela Pain	49 23	9 23
Richard Browning	52 00	12 00
John Henegar	34 64	.....
	820 33	124 74

6. *Miami Destrict.*

John Sale	27 00	.....
Hezekiah Shaw	40 93	1 00
Wm. Young	32 00	.....
Abbott Goddard	4 55	.....
Joseph Williams	4 55	.....
John Collins	67 00	.....
Benjamin Lakin	67 77	.....
John Johnston	33 39	.....
Wm. Houston	20 84	.....
John Sinclair	43 10	3 10
David Young	.....	.....
	341 13	4 10

7. *Muskingum Destrict.*

James Quinn	45 35	.....
Ralph Lotspiech	46 25	.....
John Bowman	56 60	16 60
John Holmes	60 00	20 00
Jacob Young	12 00	.....
Thomas Lasley	55 00	15 00

	Deficient.	Appropriated.
Solomon Langdon	58 39	.....
Wm. Mitchel	.....	.....
Robert Cloud	56 00	16 00
Thomas Church, 6 months	54 62	14 62
	444 21	82 22

Paid Volentine Cook $50
It being a Part of $75 due him from the Conference $50
Paid William Burk in full for money Paid for Printing Some Pamphlets to be given away at the Request of Conference $20
70

Necessitious Cases

Lewis Anderson	$ 10
Milton Ladd	9
Samuel Parker	15
Josiah Crawford	10
James Ward	36 40
James Blair	5
	85 40

Brought up	$ 85 40
John Johnston	10
John Watson	15
Robert Cloud	10
Peter Cartwright	15
Jesse Walker	15
James Quinn	10
	160 40

Yet in Reserve for Extraordinary Cases ..... $ 99 00

M. Harper	5
J. Henagar	10
H. Shaw	15
S. Sellers	5
J. Quinn	15
Wm. Houston	4
Thomas Lasley	15
Wm. Lewis	10
A. Amos	5
Wm. Winins	10
D. Young	5
	99

Whole Amount of Deficiencies	$3,404 02
Whole Amount of Money Appropriated	932 00
Remaining Deficiencies	$2,472 02
Gained by Some Mistake in not Setting Some Money Brought in	$ 44 20

The Conference Proceeded to receive the report of the Special Committee who were appointed to write a letter to the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Deer Creek Circuit the letter reported as follows:

Cincinnati, October 6th, A.D., 1809.

The Western Annual Conference Assembled to the Quarterly Conference of Deer Creek Circuit Sendeth Greeting.

Dearly Beloved Brethren: We feel ourselves as ever united to

you interested in your happiness & while we are engaged in promoting the Salvation of mankind in general permit us hereby to Signify our unfeigned Love to you & our religious desire to Assist you in every case (where our aid is thought necessary) in adjusting any differences or otherwise. Dear Brethren You are (no doubt) aware that Brothers Scott and Martin came from you to us for the adjustment of certain differences. We in due respect to you & them have considered their cases & have done the best we could with them; but finding insurmountable difficulties in the way of Setting them in the Annual Conference & from conversing with them do find them disposed to adjust the existing difficulties on amicable terms; & hoping that You will meet them in the Spirit of the Gospel, each imprest with the propriety of doing to others as you would they should do unto you of forgiving even as you by your heavenly Father have been forgiven; & we humbly advise them to return to you, hoping that you in your wisdom will devise & execute such conciliatory & effectual Measures as shall Ultimately terminate in the great, the Glorious & desirable blessing of peace among yourselves.

Beloved Brethren we hope you are sufficiently imprest with an idea of the Necessity of an union in the Church of God; We do earnestly hope that while we your faithful suffering Itinerant Servants are engaged in spreading the good news of Salvation to the end of the earth that you as pillars in the house of our God and Coworkers together with us will do all you can to feed the flock of Christ & keep them together in the bonds of Christian love.

And while we desire that you may amicably & Satisfactorily adjust the existing difficulties to the Salvation of the Church & the glory of God. Still praying for your present & future happiness we subscribe ourselves dear brethren your most affectionate friends & willing servants for Christ's sake.

Satturday Afternoon Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

Bro. Robt. Cloud's case before the Conference which was brought in by a Committee consisting of Ralph Lotspiech, Thos. Lasley, & William Mitchell, James Quinn Presiding Elder. The whole of the Proceedings of the Committee may be seen by refering to the papers, now in the hands of the Secretary. The Conference are of Opinion that the charge is not supported by the evidence produced.

William Burke proceeded to read the report of the Special Committee Appointed to examine into doctrines—no amendment was offered neither was there any opposition the question was called for & it passed with only few exceptions & is as followeth:

It is the oppinion of your Committee.

1. That Original Sin is corruption of the nature whereby man is far gone from Original righteousness & of his own nature inclined to evil & that continually.

II. That the Savior of the World tasted death for every man that *all* (infants not excepted) are benefitted by Attonement, that as they were not lost in Adam by a voluntary act of theirs, so neither is a voluntary act of theirs necessary to their Salvation.

III. As to the manner of Qualifying infants for Heaven, we pretend not to know, nor are we able to say, how nearly, or, remotely the justification of an infant & that of an adult are connected or how to get out of one into the other, with, or without Sin, to us these knotty Questions do not appear to be revealed, & your Committee humbly confesseth we have no intuitive knowledge of these things, for we have forgotten if we ever knew where or how our moral Agency or accountability took place nor do we know how it was with ourselves (much less every child that cometh into the world) a minute or an hour before or after this accountability took place, therefore to attemp an explanation is in our opinion to undertake what cannot be performed. It is an attempt to be wise above what is written.

Hence we conclude that the proper way to preach the Gospel is

I. To preach the fall of man as it is held forth in the Scriptures & illustrated in Mr. Fletcher's Unequalled Appeal.

II. To Set forth the Attonement in its full Scriptural extent as we believe Messrs. Wesley & Fletcher have done.

And when circumstances make it necessary to Apply these Grand doctrines to the case of infants, proceed to Shew that men are to be judged by revelation of a righteous judgement & will Stand acquitted or condemned according to their *words works & deeds* done in the *body* & that the Law does not take cognisance of the *words works* or *deeds* of infants & so lay the foundation of their acquittal & leave them & their qualifications for heaven in the hands of a merciful Redeemer & where Scripture

leave them & so keep out of the field of conjecture which frequently leads to dissention disputation & Schism.

But when we apply these grand truths to men as we are taught by the Gospel to do, we Should Authoritatively demand *repentance Faith & Holiness* in all their relative branches, in connection with their inseparable & proper fruits. The Gospel being our Standard.

A rising vote being taken on Several particular Neighborhoods requesting the next Annual Conference the vote being taken Shelby obtained it with the number of 33 votes to begin Nov. 5th, 1809 to be held at New Chapel.

Monday Morning Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

William Houston applied to the Conference for Revocation of his Location the Conference are of Opinion that Said Location be Revoked.

Caleb W. Cloud proceeded to Read a Letter addressed To the Inhabetants of Cincinnatti in Answer to a Letter Addresssed by them to the Conference.

The Conference are of Opinion that said Letter be Sent to them. Lawner Blackman proceeded to Read Some Statements giveing an account of Moses Black Decs'd. The Conference are of Opinion that the Said Account be Received by Striking Out the Part Respecting Temporals. It is the Opinion of the Conference that Moses Black's Widow be Considered a Necessitous Case.

James King brought forward an appeal from Ann Norwood of Fleming Circuit Respecting a Negro she had bought. It is the Opinion of the Chair that the appeal does not come before the Conference the Vote being taken the Conference Concur'd in Opinion.

Joseph Benett Requested that a Recommendation be given him, as he expects to go to N' Jersey next Spring the Conference agree that such a Recommendation be given him.

Resolved that Bishop McKendree be Alowed to take with him a Preacher to the S. Carolina Conference.

Signed in and by order of the Conference.

William Burk, Secretary. W. McKendree.

Note 10.—In the late summer of 1809 Bishop Asbury, traveling with Martin Boehm, passed through Pennsylvania, Western Virginia, into Ohio to meet with the Western Conference, which was to convene at Cincinnati on September 30. This year he is riding in a carriage, but the roads were "disagreeable," and "While tugging forward" in the Wills Creek bottom, "*crack* went the breastband and *crack* went the shaft." At Springfield he preaches to four hundred people. At Zanesville, "named after Colonel Zane, who so kindly entertained us at Wheeling," Boehm preached. The Bishop on September 3 preaches at the "elegant new court-house in New-Lancaster" and on Saturday they are entertained at the home of Doctor Tiffin. Asbury is charmed at the view from Mr. Tiffin's house, "but these long talks about land and politics suit me not; I take little interest in either subject: O Lord, give me souls, and keep me holy!" He travels down the Valley of the Little and Great Miami "occupied by New Lights, Shakers, Methodists—and sinners to be sure." On Sunday, the 23rd of September, he speaks at the "new chapel in Millford." Monday is filled with reading and writing. Thursday "Fair Cincinnati brought us up." Here he finds the Church enlarged and the society increased. Many of the preachers, he states, will be absent, evidently because of sickness. The Bishop is particularly impressed with the number of camp meetings being held in the West. "Muskingum district will have four camp-meetings," the attendance ranging from one to three thousand. "In Miami district seventeen camp-meetings in the year; in Scioto circuit four; Hockhocking two; Deer Creek two; Mad River three; Whitewater two; Cincinnati two; and White two; . . . seventeen camp-meetings for the Indiana district. . . . More of camp-meetings—I hear and see the great effects produced by them, and this year there will be more than ever." On the Sabbath, at the Conference, Learner Blackman preaches at nine o'clock, Bishop McKendree at twelve, and William Burke at three. There are three thousand people on the ground. On Sabbath, October 8, the Conference closed its labors and the "members separated on Monday." Bishop Asbury and his party depart, going by way of Kentucky, Ten-

nessee, and over the mountains into South Carolina. (Asbury's Journal, Vol. III., pages 273-278.)

The appointments for 1809, as given in the General Minutes, were as follows:

HOLSTON DISTRICT. *Fredrick Stier, P. Elder.*

Holston, James Axley, John Brown.
Saltville, James King.
Nollichuckie, William Pattison.
French Broad, Thomas Trower.
Clinch, William B. Elgin.
Powell's Valley, Lewis Anderson.
Carter's Valley, John Bowman.
Tennessee Valley, William Young.

CUMBERLAND DISTRICT. *Learner Blackman, P. Elder.*

Nashville, Thomas Hellums, Jas. Gwinn.
Red River, Isaac McKowen.
Roaring River, Jacob Turman.
Livingston, Peter Cartwright.
Hartford, John Cragg.
Duck River, John Lewis.
Elk, Josiah Crawford.
Dixon, Thomas Stilwell.
Henderson, William Lewis.
Flint, Jedediah McMinn.

KENTUCKY DISTRICT. *James Ward, P. Elder.*

Limestone and Fleming, Anthony Houston, Eli Truitt.
Licking, Abbott Goddard.
Lexington, Milton Ladd, Henry Mallory.
Hinkstone, Richard Richards, Samuel Hellums.
Lexingtontown, Caleb W. Cloud.
Sandy River, Benjamin Edge.

GREEN RIVER DISTRICT. *William Burke, P. Elder.*

Green River, John Travis.
Barren, Zadok B. Thackston.
Wayne, John Watson.
Cumberland, Richard Browning.
Danville, Charles Holliday.
Salt River, Henry McDaniel.
Shelby, James Blair, Samuel West.
Silver Creek, Sela Paine.

MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT. *John McClure, P. Elder.*

Natchez, William Houston, Miles Harper.
Wilkinson, Isaac Quinn.
Claiborne, Samuel Sellers.
Appalousas, John Henninger.
Washataw, Hezekiah Shaw.

INDIANA DISTRICT. *Samuel Parker, P. Elder.*

Illinois, Abraham Amos.
Missouri, John Crane.
Maramack, David Young, Thos. Wright.
Cold Water, Isaac Lindsey.
Cape Girardeau, Jesse Walker.
Vincennes, William Winans.

MIAMI DISTRICT. *John Sale, P. Elder.*

Cincinnati, Solomon Langdon, Moses Crume.
Mad River, Saul Henkle, Hector Sanford.
Scioto, George Askin, Alex'r Cummins.
Deer Creek, John Collins, Francis Travis.
Hockhocking, Benj. Lakin, John Manley.
White Oak, John Johnson.
White Water, Thomas Nelson, Samuel H. Thompson.

MUSKINGUM DISTRICT. *James Quinn, P. Elder.*

Fairfield, Ralph Lotspiech.
Will's Creek, James B. Finley.
West Wheeling, Jacob Young, William Lambden.
Marietta, John Holmes.
Little Kanawha, William Mitchell.
Guyandott, Joseph Bennett.
Letart Falla, John Clingan.
Knox, Robert Cloud.

Thomas Lasley travels with Bishop McKendree this year.

XI.

JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN ANNUAL CONFERENCE BEGUN AND HELD AT THE NEW CHAPEL IN SHELBY CTY, NOVR. 1, 1810.[11]

MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE.

Those marked * are absent.

Francis Asbury, Bishop
William McKendree, Bishop
Frederick Stier
James Axley
William Pattison
Thomas Trower*
William B. Elgin
Lewis Anderson
John Bowman*
William Young
Lawner Blackman
Thomas Hellums
James Gwinn
Isaac McCown
Jacob Turman
Peter Cartwright
John Cragg
John Lewis
Josiah Crawford
Thos. Stilwell
William Lewis*
Jedediah McMinn
Thos. Kirkman
James Ward
Anthony Houston
Eli Truit
Abbott Goddard*
Milton Ladd
Henry Mallory
Richard Richards
Richard Browning*
James Blair
Sela Payne
John McClure*
William Houston*
Miles Harper*
Isaac Quinn*
Samuel Sellars
John Hennegar*
Hezekiah Shaw*
Samuel Parker
Abraham Amos*
John Crane
David Young
Isaac Lindsey
Jesse Walker*
William Winans
John Sale
Solomon Langdon
Moses Crume
Saul Hinkle
Hector Sanford*
John Collins
Benjamin Lakin*
John Johnston
James Quinn
Ralph Lotspeich
William Lamden
John Holmes*
William Mitchell

MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE (Continued).

Caleb W. Cloud	John Clingon
Benjamin Edge	Robert Cloud
William Burk	Thos. Lasley
John Travis	Elisha W. Bowman*
Zadock B. Thackston*	

THURSDAY MORNING BISHOP MCKENDREE IN THE CHAIR.

William Burk Secretary & Thos. Stilwell Assistant.

On Motion resolved that the Conference meet at 9 Oclock. Resolved that we adjourn at Twelve & meet again at half after one & half after 4 Oclock. The Conference proceeded to elect by Ballott a Committee of Appropriations. The folowing persons were elected (Viz) Lawner Blackman, John Sale & Samuel Parker.

The Conference proceeded to elect by Ballott a Committee to adjust the book accounts. The following persons were duly elected (Viz) T. Stilwell, William B. Elgin & James King.

The Conference proceeded to receive by Recommendations those who came to be received on trial as traveling Preachers. The following persons were received:

(1) Cumberland District.

1. John McFarland from Levingston Circuit.
2. Samuel King from Goose Creek Circuit.
3. John Page from Goose Creek Circuit.

THURSDAY EVENING BISHOP MCKENDREE IN THE CHAIR.

The Conference proceeded to receive the following persons by recommendations from Cumberland District:

4. John Phipps from Hartford Circuit.
5. Thomas Kirkman Henderson Circuit. In page 66 it may be seen that Thomas Kirkman was dropt when he had served out his probation, the Conference are of opinion that as he has travelled Six Months in the present Year he be admitted into full Connection &

elect him to the office of a Deacon provided he be approved of when examined before the Conference.

(2) Holston District.

1. Baker Prather from Carters Valley Circuit.

(3) Muskingum Destrict.

1. John Strange from Knox Circuit.
2. James Dixon from little Kanawha Circuit.
3. James McMahan from little Kanawha Circuit.
4. Jacob Mills from West Wheeling Circuit.
5. Michael Ellis from West Wheeling Circuit.

(4) Indianna District.

1. Thomas Wright from the Illinois Circuit.
2. Joseph Piggott from the Cold Water Circuit.

(5) Kentucky District.

1. James G. Leach from the Lexington Circuit.
2. Vivion Daniel from the Licking Circuit.
3. Joseph Haines from the Limestone Circuit.
4. Caleb J. Taylor from the Limestone Circuit.

(6) Miami District.

1. Stephen Timmons from the Deer Creek Circuit formerly a Travelling Preacher Local Several Years—in Elders Orders but is admitted so as to graduate to Membership.
2. Isaac Tavey from the Deer Creek Circuit.
3. Walter Griffith from the White Oak Circuit.

Friday Morning Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

John Sale from the Committee of Appropriations haveing progressed in forming Rules for the Government of the Sittings of the Annual Conference Reported. The Conference Proceeded to receive the report Rule by Rule, on the final Reading the Conference Received the whole of the rules as follows:

Rules by Which the Western Annual Conference Shall Be Governed in Their Sittings.

1. The President shall see that all the business appertaining

to the Conference be brought forward aranged & conducted in a proper manner as specified in the Discipline.

2. He shall preserve order in all the proceedings, he shall keep the Speaker to the question or call him to order when in his Judgment there is a departure from it.

3. He shall decide in all questions of order, nevertheless any member may appeal from his Judgment to the Conference & in such case the appeal shall be decided without debate.

4. He shall plainly state every question & put the same to vote whenever called for unless the previous question be called for which shall always be taken without debate.

5. Every question or resolution moved & seconded shall be duly considered debated & put to vote unless otherwise disposed of according to order.

6. Every speaker on any subject shall rise & address the President & shall not be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the question or from the rules & decorum of the Conference.

7. No member shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same question nor more than 15 minutes at once unless he first obtained liberty from the Conference which shall be decided without debate.

8. If in debate one member misrepresent the arguments of another the member who is misrepresented shall have liberty to rise & explain & the other shall be silent till such explanation be given.

9. When any member conceives that another is out of order he may call the attention of the President to the case.

10. In any question when the President may think proper from motives of delicasy he may resign the Chair & call any member of Conference to the Chair during the consideration of such question or questions.

11. When speaking each member shall have due regard to the feelings of his Brethren by avoiding irritating language & personal reflections.

12. No Question shall be introduced while another is under consideration Nevertheless a motion for postponement shall be considered in order & the Vote taken without debate.

13. The Secretary shall be chosen Annually at the commencement of the Conference.

14. He shall every morning at the opening of the Conference read the proceedings of the preceeding day.

15. He shall take charge of the journals; all the Conference

papers Keep them safe & see that they are conveyed to the place of its next sitting.

16. He shall allow no person or persons to take any copy of papers or extracts from the Journals of Conference without first obtaining liberty from the Conference.

17. No member shall be absent in time of the sitting of Conference without first obtaining leave of absence.

18. At the close of every sitting the Secretary shall report the Absentees.

19. That no preacher shall bring any charge against any member of Conference untill he has first given information of the same either by letter or otherwise so as the accused may have an opportunity of preparing for defence.

The Conference proceeded to finish the Answer to the first Question, Who are admitted on trial?

(6) Miami Destrict.

4. Marcus Lindsey from the Cincinnatti Circuit.

5. Daniel Fraley from the Scioto Circuit.

(7) Green River District.

1. Thomas A. King from the Barren Circuit.

2. George A. Calbert from the Barren Circuit.

3. Samuel S. Griffin from the Danville Circuit.

4. Matthew Nelson from the Danville Circuit.

5. Nathan Pullum from the Danville Circuit.

Friday Afternoon Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

The Conference proceeded to the answer of the Second Question.

The several cases of those to be continued were inspected before the Conference & the following persons were continued, James B. Finley, 2 Henry McDaniel- 3 Thomas Nelson 4 John Manley 5 Samuel West 6 Francis Travis 7 Alexander Cummins 8 John Brown 9 Samuel Hellums 10 Charles Holliday & 11 Samuel H. Thompson.

The Conference proceeded to the examination of those who were to be admitted into full connection:

Present William Young examined & admitted into full connection, Likewise elected to the office of a Deacon.

Saturday Morning Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

The case of John Bowman from the Holston District who had rode out the time of his probation upon strict examination respecting his gifts and Qualifications the Conference are of oppinion that he be discontinued.

The Conference Continued to Answer the 3 question, Who are admitted into full Connection? Present William Winans examined & admitted into full connection likewise Elected to the office of a Deacon.

John Lewis present examined & admitted into full connection Likewise elected to the office of a Deacon.

Richard Richards present examined and admitted into full connection Likewise elected to the office of a Deacon.

William B. Elgin present examined & admitted into full connection Likewise elected to the office of a Deacon.

Lewis Anderson present examined & admitted into full connection Likewise elected to the office of a Deacon.

John Johnson present examined & admitted into full connection Likewise elected to the office of a Deacon.

Isaac Lindsey present examined & admitted into full connection Likewise elected to the office of a Deacon.

Moses Crume present examined & admitted into full connection having been a Local Preacher for a number of years & Likewise having travelled two years in Deacons orders the Conference are of oppinion that he be elected to the Office of an Elder & they accordingly elect him.

Saturday Afternoon Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

Eli Truitt present examined & admitted into full connection Likewise elected to the office of a Deacon.

James Blair present examined & admitted into full connection Likewise elected to the office of a Deacon.

James Guinn present examined & admitted into full connection having stood two years on the Minutes & in Deacons orders 6 years the Conference are of oppinion that he be elected to the office of an Elder & they accordingly elect him.

William Lambden examined & admitted into full connection & elect him to the office of a Deacon.

James Quinn Reported from the Special Committee appointed in the case of McElyea—by reference to page 71 it may be seen that Daniel McElyea was admitted on trial as a Travelling Preacher the report of the Committee as follows:

> We the Committee appointed to report in the Case of Daniel McElyea are of oppinion that considering his immoralities that he be discontinued from among the traveling preachers.

The Conference proceeded to the examination of the Recommendations of the Local Preachers applying for Deacons orders.

Kentucky District.

The case of James Cox before the Conference accept the recommendation. Christopher Monack, Michael Ghohegan, John Faulknor, Benjamin Vaupett, & Henry Brenton whose recommendations were admitted.

The Conference Proceeded to take the accounts of what the Preachers had received in their several Circuits.

Monday Morning Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

The Conference proceeded to appoint a Committee of Review Bishop Asbury nominated the following (Viz) James Guin, James Quinn, J. Collins, Solomon Langdon & Milton Ladd they were elected by the Conference.

James Ward offered an Amendment to the Rules—the Conference Adopted the said Amendment.

The Conference Proceed to review the accounts of the Presiding Elders, the Conference accepted the Account.

The Conference proceeded to review what the Preachers had collected from their several Districts & circuits.

Miami District Presiding Elder	$10
Solomon Langdon Deer Creek Circuit	$ 2
Total	$12
Indianna District Samuel Paraker	3 50

The Conference Proceeded to collect what the Preachers Subscribed last year Amounting to $62.40.

The Conference proceeded to make a draft on the Book Concern for $300 Likewise on the Charter Fund for $150.

The Conference then resumed the business of accepting the recommendations of the Local Preachers for the office of Deacons James Star, James Smith, John Green, Joseph Thrap, David Smutthers, Thos. Cunningham, Robert Carter, James Stallord (?) Joshua Walls, Lewellwyn Leggatt, Alexander McDonolds, Enoch James, Robert Baker, Thomas Jones, Thomas Moore, David Hodges, John Taylor, Wesley White, Robert Dougherty, Thomas Exell, Larry Killibrew & Benjamin Proctor.

Monday Evening Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

The Conference Recommend to the Committee an examination of the reformed Pastor.

The Conference proceeded to the examination of the Deacons Characters. The following persons were examined John Hennegar, John Cragg, William Lewis—located, Jedediah McMinn—located, Jacob Turman, William Mitchell & in Consequence of a Mission he was elected to the Office of an Elder—Josiah Crawford & T. Stilwell.

The Conference proceeded to examine those who were

eligible to the office of Elders. The following persons were elected to the office of Elders, Henry Mallory, James King—located, Abbott Goddard, Sela Paine, Hector Sanford—located, John Travis, Isaac Quinn, John Clingon, John Crane, Thomas Tower & Saul Henkle.

The Conference proceeded to Fix the place of the Sitting of the next Western Annual Conference, the places proposed Cincinnati, Chillicothe, Lexington, Ebenezar, it was determined by Ballott Cincinnati obtained it by the number of 36 votes to begin October 1st, 1811.

Tuesday Morning Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

The character of Milton Ladd before the Conference. The Conference are of oppinion the (that) he be elected to the office of an Elder. It was moved by James King and James Axley that the case of John Page be Reconsidered the Conference determine in the Negative.

Lawner Blackman proceeded to Report from the Committe of Appropriation.

The Conference are of opinion that the Report be Received as Follows:

The Report of the Committee of Appropriations.

(Viz) Deficencies $2,541.77	2,541 77
To Meet the above Deficencies	
Draft on the Book Concern $300.00	300 00
Draft on the Chartered Fund $150.00	150 00
Extra Collections $108.75	108 75
	558 75
Insolvent	1,983 02

Appropriations Made as follows (Viz)

	Deficencies. D. Cnt.	Appropriations. D. Cnt.
Bishop Asbury	.....	25 00
Bishop McKendree	.....	25 00
Henry Boehm	.....	10 00
John Manley	31 16	.....
Samuel Parker	64 87½	25 87½
Samuel West	.....	.....
Frederick Stier	1 50	.....

	Deficencies. D.	Cnt.	Appropriations. D.	Cnt.
Francis Travis	29	00	.....	
Lawner Blackman		78	.....	
Charles Holliday	66	23	.....	
Josiah Crawford	13	00	.....	
William Michel	.....		.....	
James Ward	6	43	.....	
James Quinn	28	32	.....	
John Sale	24	87½	.....	
William Pattisen	8	15	.....	
Peter Cartwright	120	00	40	00
Anthony Houston	19	00	.....	
Benjamin Edge	43	00	3	00
James Axley	.....		.....	
Alexander Cummins	100	00	20	00
Thomas Hellums	.....		.....	
Caleb W. Cloud	.....		.....	
Zadock B. Thackston	79	54	.....	
Richard Browning	104	49	26	50
William Houston	.....		.....	
David Young	70	00	30	00
Jessee Walker	150	00	70	00
Miles Harper	.....		.....	
John Brown	20	00	.....	
Samuel Sellars	.....		.....	
William Young	20	00	.....	
Abraham Amos	.....		.....	
William Winans	20	95	.....	
Solomon Langdon	68	82½	.....	
Benjamin Lakin	62	32	.....	
John Collins	.....		.....	
Ralph Lotspiech	23	53	.....	
Samuel Hellums	50	00	10	00
John Cragg	85	81	5	81
Robert Cloud	101	70	22	70
William Lewis, 6 months	48	00	8	00
Samuel H. Thompson	50	00	10	00
Thomas Lasley	.....		.....	
John Holmes	.....		.....	
John Henager	.....		.....	
Jedediah McMinn	40	50		50
Jacob Turman	.....		.....	
James King	.....		.....	
Thomas Stilwell	15	41	.....	
Henry Mallory	12	00	.....	
Abbott Goddard	.....		.....	
Sela Pain	25	06	.....	
Hezekiah Shaw	.....		.....	
Hector Sanford	.....		.....	
Milton Ladd	6	00	.....	
John Travice	33	07½	.....	
Isaac Quinn	.....		.....	

	Deficencies. D.	Cnt.	Appropriations. D.	Cnt.
John Clingon	40	00	.....	
John Crane	60	00	20	00
Thomas Trower	5	00	.....	
Saul Hinkle	56	00	.....	
James B. Finley	87	86	7	86
Henry McDaniel	120	00	40	00
Thomas Nelson	30	00	.....	
Lewis Anderson	5	00	.....	
John Lewis, 6 months	32	25	13	25
Isaac McCown	34	63	.....	
Richard Richards	11	75	.....	
William B. Elgin	10	00	.....	
Isaac Lindsey	63	20	26	80
Moses Crume	70	00	10	00
Eli Truitt	40	00	.....	
James Blair	1	46	.....	
James Guinn	57	00	.....	
Thomas Kirkman, 6 months	58	12	18	12
We find on examination that Bishop Asbury has Received at each Conference $25 Making in the whole	200	00	.....	
Expended from the Western A. Conference 1810 To the Present Conference 1811	223	70	.....	
Also Bishop McKendree Received $25 from Each Conference amounting to	200	00	.....	
Expended from the W. A. Conference 1810 to the Present W. A. Conference 1811	125	52¼	.....	
Remaining in the Hands of the Committee	132	23	.....	
How applied To E. W. Bowman	40	00	.....	
Wm. Burk	20	00	.....	
To Harris for McEkelyea	5	00	.....	
William Lewis 5 Benjamin Edge 5	10	00	.....	
Sela Pain 10 Jessee Walker 10	20	00	.....	
Valentine Cook 10 Thos Lasley 5	15	00	.....	
William Winans 10 Wm Michel 12.23	22	23	.....	
	132	23	.....	

On motion made by William Burk that a Special Committe be appointed in a case of delicasy Respecting James Blair, William Burk proceeded to Nominate Robert Cloud, Moses Crume, and Eli Truitt the Conference concured in the Nomination.

The Conference proceeded in the Examination of the Charrecters of the Elders, James Ward, Anthony

Houston, Caleb W. Cloud, Zadock B. Thackston and Richard Browning obtained Locations, Milton Ladd moved for a Cirtificate of Recommendation to the Virginia Conference, the Conference are of Opinion that Said Recommendation be given him. John McClure Requested by Letter that the Conference would grant him a Location, the Conference are of opinion the (that) he be placed among the Superanuated, and that a letter be drawn up by the Financing Committe and Sent to him.

Frederick Stire examined but some charges being Exibetted against him by James Guinn a Committe is appointed to hear the Charges, the Committe as follows, John Sale, Saul Hinkle, Solomon Langdon, James Quinn and John Collins.

Robert Cloud examined and as some Charges ly against him by James Quinn it is thought proper to appoint a Committe, and the following are appointed, James Guinn, John Sale, Saul Hinkle, Solomon Langdon, and John Collins.

The Conference Proceeded—an Appeal before the Conference by Jacob Addams who has been expelled at the Quarterly Meeting Conference held in Lexington Circuit October 17th 1810 for Purchasing a Negro woman and child with Speculative motives, the Conference decide against him in favor of what the Quarterly Meeting Conference had done.

Wednesday Morning Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

James Blair moved that for convenience William Lamdin should be appointed to take the place of Robert Cloud on the Special Committee who have been appointed to try his case, the Conference voted in favor of the motion.

James Ward laid before the Conference a petition forwerded by the Local Preachers praying that they

may (?) Elders orders, the Conference are of opinion that it be laid over for further consideration.

Milton Ladd from the Committe of Review proceeded to Report as far as they had progressed on duely Examining, Bareblows &c, are of an opinion that it should be discountenanced, approved by the Conference.

2nd Examined a Shock to Shakerism, are of opinion that it contains Some Sound arguments &c but that it Should not be Patronised by the Conference, the Conference of opinion that the Shock to Shakerism, So far as the Sample is before them contains Some Sound arguments, William Burk Motioned that the Committe of Revieu address the Author with a Respectable Note.

3rd Examined a Manuscript on the subject of Slavery, are of Opinion that Contains Nothing New, the Conference are of opinion that a Respectful Note be addressed to the Author advising him not to Print it.

Eli Truitt one of the Committe in the case of James Blair moved that two more be appointed to assist with them, Henry Mallory and Ralph Lotspiech Nominated and Elected.

Caleb W. Cloud Moved for Readmition as Supernumary the Conference Readmit him.

Wednesday Afternoon Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

The Presedent advise that two fast days be appointed for the next year, the Conference Vote that they be fixed on the third Friday in June and first Friday in October.

Bishop McKendree moved that he obtain the previledge of a Coppy of the rules of the Annual Conference and a Coppy of the Slave Rule. Carried in the affirmative.

Thirsday Morning Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

Richard Browning applied by letter for a Location

the Conference the Conference [*sic*] granted him said Location.

James Ward moved for Readmition the Conference Readmit him.

Bishop McKendree brought forward the address of the Local Preachers laid before the Conference yesterday to be taken up and considered, Lawner Blackman accordingly Proceeded to read the Address, Solomon Langdon one of the Committe who was appointed in the case of F. Stier Moved for Postponing the consideration of the Address, until they Should Report, the Address postponed.

John Sale Proceeded to read the Report &C, as follows the Case of Frederick Stier:

As their ware some Complaints from the Cumberland Destrict, the Complaints were before a Committe consisting of John Sale, Solomon Langdon, James Quinn, John Collins and Saul Hinkle and was agetated before the Conference Nearly Half a day. F. Stiers made Concessions which gave the Conference Satisfaction and the Parties agree Amicably to Settle which was done in a Conference capacity.

Thirsday Afternoon Bishop McKendree in the Chair.

John Collins moved that the Case of Robert Cloud be brought from the committe, and that it come before the Conference, Carried in the affirmative.

The Address of the Local Preachers before the Conference—Lawner Blackman moved that the Local Brethern who sent the Address be answered as follow (Viz) We have thought proper to Lay over your address for more Mature Consideration at our next Annual Conference when we Shall Choose our delegates for the Next General Conference Seconded by Samuel Parker. The Conference Voted in favor of the Motion.

William Burk Motioned that a Letter be addressed to the Presedent whose name is Signed to the Local

Preachers address, and the Conference are of opinion that Samuel Parker and Caleb W. Cloud be a Committe to draw up Said Letter.

Eli Truitt Reported from the Committe appointed in the Case of James Blair, and are of Opinion that he be Severly Reproved from the Chair William Burk Moved that the word Severely be Struck out the Conference approve the Motion the Report amended as follows (Viz.)

We the Committe appointed to Examine into the Case of J. Blair are of opinion from the face of the Evidence that he has been guilty of imprudent Conduct but their are so many Palliating Circumstances that we are of Opinion that he did not So act designedly and give it as our opinion that he shall be Repremanded before the Conference by the Presedent and be advised to act with more Caution for the future. Signed in behalf of the Committe. ELI TRUETT.

The Special Committe appointed to write an address to the Local Preachers thro their Presedent proceeded to read the address with an amendment the Conference approve of Said Address.

The Character of F. Stier Examined before the Conference.

The Case of Robert Cloud before the Conference. It was moved and Seconded that it be laid over to the Next Annual Conference. Carried in the affirmative.

On motion Resolved that a Committe be appointed to take evedence and Prepare the business for next Annual Conference.

Motioned that Robert Cloud appoint one and the Conference one. Carried in the affirmative.

Solomon Langdon Nominated by R. Cloud. The Conference Voted for the Assistant Preacher of Fairfield Circuit as the other Except R. Cloud Should be appointed to that Circuit, and in that Case the Presedent Elder Shall appoint one. The Character of Robert Cloud examined.

The Committe appointed for the inspection of Books &c, Milton Ladd proceeded to read a note directed to B. Whitson 2nd a Note to Dr. Clarke on his Shock to Shakerism.

Lawner Blackman from the Committe of Appropriations Proceeded to Read an address which was directed to be sent to John McClure. Received without amendment.

The Notes to B. Whitson and Dr. Clarke Approved &c,

Signed in and by order of the Conference.

WILLIAM BURK, Secretary. W. MCKENDREE.

NOTE 11.—Again in 1810 Bishop Asbury travels to the Western Conference through Pennsylvania, Ohio, and down into Kentucky. At Frankfort he finds "elegant accommodations provided for those who make the laws, and those who break them; but there is no house of God." He preaches at Shelbyville in the courthouse. He finds the Methodists all for camp-meetings, while "the Baptists are for public baptizing." On November 1, which is Thursday, he notes that Conference began in great peace and good order, and that "there were twenty-six admitted." On Sunday, the 4th, Bishop McKendree preached, while Bishop Asbury exhorted. After the election of McKendree to the episcopacy he seemed more and more to assume the heavier duties, especially in the Western Conference.

Bishop Asbury came to this session of the Conference in what he calls a "sulky." At the close of the Conference he sold the "sulky" and purchased a horse, "that I might more easily wind my way through the wilderness to Georgia." (Asbury's Journal, Vol. III., pages 293, 294.)

The appointments for 1810, as given in the General Minutes, were as follows:

HOLSTON DISTRICT. *Fredrick Stier, P. Elder.*

Holston, Thomas Trower.
Saltville, Josiah Crawford.
Nollichuckie, Samuel H. Thompson.
French-Broad, William Pattison.
Clinch, Samuel Hellums.
Powell's Valley, John Brown.

Tennessee Valley, Thomas Hellums.
Carter's Valley, Richard Richards.

CUMBERLAND DISTRICT. *Learner Blackman, P. Elder.*

Nashville, William B. Elgin.
Red River, James Gwinn.
Roaring River, Samuel King.
Livingston, Peter Cartwright.
Hartford, Marcus Lindsey.
Duck River, Lewis Anderson.
Elk, James Axley.
Dixon, John Manley.
Richland, John Cragg.
Goose Creek, John Page.
Henderson, John Lewis.
St. Vincennes, Thomas Stilwell.
Flint, John Phipps.
Cash Creek, Thomas Kirkman.

KENTUCKY DISTRICT. *John Sale, P. Elder.*

Limestone, Samuel C. Griffin, Matthew Nelson.
Fleming, Caleb J. Taylor.
Licking, James Leach.
Lexington, C. Holliday, E. Truitt, Caleb W. Cloud.
Hinkstone, Henry McDaniel, Henry Mallory.
Sandy River, John Johnson.

GREEN RIVER DISTRICT. *William Burke, P. Elder.*

Green River, John Travis, John Crane.
Barren, Samuel Sellers.
Wayne, Nathan Pullum.
Cumberland, Samuel West.
Danville, Thos. Lasley, Baker Wrather.
Salt River, Banjamin Edge.
Shelby, James Ward, James Blair.
Silver Creek, Isaac Lindsey.

MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT. *Miles Harper, P. Elder.*

Natchez and Washington, Isaac Quinn.
Wilkinson, William Houston.
Natchez Circuit, Sela Paine, Fredrick D. Wimberly.
Claiborne, John Henninger.
Amit, Hezekiah Shaw.

Rapids, Thomas Nelson.
Washataw, John Jennings.
Attakapas, William Winans.

INDIANA DISTRICT. *Samuel Parker, P. Elder.*

Illinois, Daniel Fraley.
Missouri, Thomas Wright.
Maramack, John McFarland.
Cold Water, George A. Colbert.
Cape Girardeau, Jesse Walker.

MIAMI DISTRICT. *Solomon Langdon, P. Elder.*

Cincinnati, Benjamin Lakin, Wm. Young.
Mad River, John Clingan.
Union, John Collins.
Scioto, Saul Henkle, Stephen Timmons.
Deer Creek, Ralph Lotspeich, Joseph Haines.
Enon, Walter Griffith.
Pickaway, Alexander Cummins, James McMehan.
White Oak, Isaac Pavey.
White Water, Moses Crume.
Delaware, Robert Cloud.

MUSKINGUM DISTRICT. *James Quinn, P. Elder.*

Fairfield, Francis Travis.
Wills Creek, John Strange, Jacob Mills.
West Wheeling, William Lambden, Michael Ellis.
Marietta, David Young, Vivian Daniels.
Little Kanawha, John Holmes.
Guyandott, Jacob Turman.
Letart Falls, Joseph Pigott.
Knox, James B. Finley.
Tuscarawa, James Dixon.
Detroit, William Mitchell.

XII.

THE JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN ANNUAL CONFERENCE BEGUN & HELD AT CINCINNATI, STATE OF OHIO, OCTR. 1ST, 1811.[12]

MEMBERS.

Those marked * were absent.

Francis Asbury
William McKendree
Presidents
Lawner Blackman
John Sale
William Burk
James Quinn
Samuel Parker
Frederick Stier
Miles Harper*
Solomon Langdon
P. Elders
Thos. Trower*
William Patterson
Thos. Hellums
James Gwin*
Peter Cartwright
James Axley
John Page*
Henry Mallory*
Caleb W. Cloud
John Travis
Sam.l Sellars
Thos. Lasley
Benjn. Edge
James Ward
Isaac Quinn*
William Houston*
Sela Payne*
Jesse Walker
Benjn. Lakin
John Clingon
John Collins
Saul Hinkle*
Ralph Lotspeich
Moses Crume
Robt. Cloud
David Young
John Holmes*
William Mitchell
Elisha W. Bowman
John McClure*
John Crane
Saml King*
John Cragg
Josiah Crawford*
Hezekiah Shaw
John Henninger
Jacob Turman
Thos. Stilwell
Lewis Anderson
William Young*
William Lambdin
Richard Richards
John Johnston
Eli Truitt
Thos. Kirkman
William Winans*
John Lewis
William B. Elgin
Isaac Lindsey
James Blair

Tuesday Morning Bishop McKendree President.

The Conference proceed to Elect a Secretary by ballot. Lawner Blackman was accordingly Elected.

On motion Resolved that the Conference meet at 9 o'clock & adjourn at 12 o'clock. Meet again at 2 o'clock —adjourn at 5 o'clock.

The Conference proceeded to Elect by ballot a committee of appropriation & James Quinn, David Young, Samuel Parker, Frederick Stier & T. Stilwell were found to be duly Elected.

The Conference proceeded to elect by an open vote a book committee. Robt. Cloud, Thos. Hellums & Wm. B. Elgin were nominated & duly elected. The Chair called for the reading of the rules adopted for the Government of Conference while sitting.—The Secretary proceeded to read them. The Conference adopted sd. Rules without amendment.

Tuesd. Afternoon Bishop McKendree President.

The Conference proceeded to take up & answer the 3rd Question. Who are to be admitted into full connection? Bishop Asbury proceeded to examine the following persons who stood eligible for admission—And John Manley, Saml. Hellums, Charles Holliday, Thos. Nelson, Saml. Thompson, John Brown, Francis Travis, Saml. West, James B. Finley, Alexander Cummins, & Henry McDaniel were admitted into full connection & elected to the Office of Deacons. Charles Holliday was elected (was elected) to the office of an Elder. He was in Deacons orders when admitted on trial.

Michael Ellis & John Page admitted into full connection.

Stephen Timmons's case was considered & he discontinued.

Saml. King was admitted into full connection.

Henry McDaniel admitted into full connection Elected to the office of a Deacon.

Wednesday 9 O'clock Bishop McKendree President.

The Conference received the accounts from the Preachers individually of the Monies they received the last year on their different Circuit & likewise to examine the accounts of the Bishops & Presiding Elders. The Conference proceeded to make a draft on the Book Concern for 300 Dollars & on the Chartered fund for 100 Dollars Proceeded to receive the monies sent on from Nashville 5 Dollars, Hochocking 5 Dollars, Union 10 Dollars, West Wheeling 7 $ 19 Cents.

The case of William Young was considered & in Consequence of his great debility of body voted that he should stand on the Minutes among the Superanuated & worn out Preachers.

Lewis Anderson, William Lambdin, Richard Richards, Eli Truit, John Johnston, Thos. Kirkman & John Lewis, examined before the Conference & found good.

Eli Truit requested a Location (a location) the Conference granted him a location.

Wednesday 2 O'clock Bishop Asbury President.

The Conference Proceeded to the Election of Local Preachers. Michael Rouse a Local Preacher from the Licking Circuit was Elected to the Office of a Deacon.

Jonathan Wilson a Local Preacher from Lexington Circuit, was elected to the office of a Deacon.

John Vice, Absalom Hunt, David Anderson, & John Evans, Local Preachers from Hinkstone Circuit was elected to the Office of Deacons.

James Griffin a Local Preacher from Claborn circuit was elected to the office of a Deacon.

Robert Dongan a Local Preacher from the Flint Circuit elected to the office of a Deacon.

Samuel Harvey a Local Preacher from Henderson Circuit was elected to the Office of a Deacon.

Thos. Taylor a Local Preacher from the Hartford circuit was duly recommended; but not elected by the Conference.

Benjn. McReynolds a Local Preacher from Christian Ct. duly recommended but not elected by the Conference in Consequence of his not having complied with the rule with regard to a Negroe man he holds as a Slave.

Movd. by William Burk & seconded by L. Blackman that it be Stated to Benjn. McReynolds by word or Letter the reason of his rejection. Put to vote & Carried. Movd. by L. Blackman & seconded by James Quinn that the Presiding Elder who shall have charge where Benjn. McReynolds lives, be the person who shall give him the information voted by conference & likewise make some statements to Thos. Taylor of the reason of his rejection put to vote & carried.

John Gray a Local Preacher from White Water circuit was elected to the office of a Deacon.

John Clark a local Preacher from Cincinnatti Ct. was elected to the office of a Deacon.

Jacob Delay a Local Preacher from Pickaway Ct. was elected to the office of a Deacon.

Adbel Coleman a Local preacher from Cincinnatti Ct. was elected to the office of a Deacon.

Joshua Holland a Local Preacher from White Water Ct. elected to the Office of a Deacon.

Thursday 9 Oclock Bishop McKendree President.

The Conference proceeded with the election of Local Preachers.

Samuel Brown a Local Preacher from Barren Circuit was elected to the Office of a Deacon.

John Clark a Local Preacher from Cincinnatti Circuit was elected to the Office of a Deacon.

Joseph Stockton a local Preacher from White Oak not elected.

Reuben Row a Local Preacher from Deer Creek Circuit elected to the Office of a Deacon.

William Kermes a Local Preacher from West Union Circuit elected to the Office of a Deacon.

Benjamin Spry a Local Preacher from Wills Creek Circuit elected to the Office of a Deacon.

George Akin a local Preacher from French Broad Circuit not elected.

The case of Edward Scott a Local Preacher from Chillicothe before the Conference who appealed from the decision of the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Deer Creek circuit who had suspended him from Official Services in the Church. The Charges being read for which sd Scott was suspended. He proceeded to State the reason why he appealed & to make his defence before the Conference. The minutes of the Quarterly Meeting Conference were read & laid before this Conference.

Thursday 2 Oclock Bishop McKendree President.

The Conference resumed the case of Edward Scotts Appeal Thos. Scott & Thos. Hinds members of the Quarter Meeting held for Deer Creek Ct. proceeded to make some Statements relative to the Appeal the Question was called for, but the previous question being call'd for, was carried without debate & lost.

The main Question was then called for which was stated as follows, Shall we or Shall we not confirm the Judgement of the Quarterly Meeting Conference? The vote being taken in the positive; The Judgement of the Quarterly Meeting Conference was confirmed.

The Conference Proceeded in the examination of the Deacons; & William B. Elgin & Isaac Lindsey was examined—no charges against them.

The Conference proceeded to examine the Character of those who were eligible for Elders orders, John Cragg Elected to the Office of an Elder.

Josiah Crawford not elected in consequence of some charges stated against him by James Axley.

Hezekiah Shaw not elected—he requested a Location. The Conference granted him a Location.

John Henninger, Jacob Turman, & Thos. Stilwell elected to the Office of Elders.

Movd. and seconded that the Conference meet on Friday morning at 8 Oclock put to vote & carried.

Friday 8 Oclock Bishop McKendree President.

Movd. by Solomon Langdon seconded by William Burk that the case of Edward Scott be reconsidered the Question was taken in the affirmative. Carried.

The Conference proceeded to the examination of the characters of the Preachers who remain on trial.

John McFarland and Matthew Nelson continued on trial. The Conference took up & reconsidered the case of Edward Scott. Some statements were made. The Questions was called for. But the previous question being call'd for was taken without debate Lost. The main Question was then stated whether this Conference set aside the Judgement of the Quarterly Meeting Conference or not put to vote Carried against the Judgement of the Quarterly Meeting Conference.

Friday 3 Oclock Bishop McKendree President.

Samuel Parker from the Committee of Appropriation proceeded to report. Which report was received by the Conference, as follows:

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF APPROPRIATIONS.

	D.	Cnt.
(Viz) Deficiencies	3,042	61½
To meet the above Difficiencies		
Draft on the book concern $300	300	00
Draw on the Charter fund	100	00
Extra Collections, Hockhochking Ct.	5	00
Nashville Circuit	5	00
Union Circuit	10	00
West Wheeling Ct.	7	19
	$ 427	19

	Money Received. D.	Cnt.	Money Appropriated. D.	Cnt.
Francis Asbury	.....		31	00
Wm. McKendree	.....		10	00
Wm. Burk	140	02	.....	
John Sale	170	33	.....	
Lawner Blackman	80	00	.....	
James Quinn	114	00	.....	
Samuel Parker	.....		.....	
Frederick Stier	80	00	.....	
Miles Harper	.....		.....	
Solomon Langdon	124	02	.....	
Thos. Trower	70	00	.....	
William Patterson	80	00	.....	
Thos. Hellums	54	95	.....	
James Gwin	95	00	.....	
Peter Cartwright, 9 months	18	31	26	69
James Axley	44	42	.....	
John Page	80	00	.....	
Thos. Stilwell	13	12½	16	88
Henry Mallory	83	12	.....	
Caleb H. Cloud	.....		.....	
John Travis	40	25	.....	
Samuel Sellers	37	00	.....	
Thos. Lasley	80	00	.....	
Benjn. Edge	67	00	.....	
James Ward	118	75	.....	
Isaac Quinn	.....		.....	
William Houston	.....		.....	
Sela Payn	.....		.....	
Jesse Walker	32	00	28	00
Benjn. Lakin	151	05	.....	
John Clingon	80	00	.....	
John Collins	134	52	.....	
Saul Hinkle	160	00	.....	
John Manly	52	07	.....	
Francis Travis	57	00	.....	
John Brown	80	00	.....	
Charles Holliday	160	00	.....	
Frederick D. Wimberly	.....		.....	
John Jennings	.....		.....	

	Money Received. D.	Cnt.	Money Appropriated. D.	Cnt.
John McFarland	11	00	19	00
Matthew Nelson	80	00	.....	
Baker Rather	80	00	.....	
James Dixon	41	70	.....	
Jacob Mills, 6 months	10	00	5	00
Thos. Wright	50	00	10	00
James G. Leach	.....		.....	
Joseph Haines	.....		.....	
Walter Griffith	75	00	.....	
T. Lotspeich	167	00	.....	
Moses Crume	50	64	9	36
Robt. Cloud	48	39	11	66
David Young	40	13	.....	
John Holmes	160	00	.....	
William Mitchell	30	00	.....	
E. W. Bowman	19	53	.....	
John Crane	45	00	.....	
John McClure	.....		30	00
Samuel King	80	00	.....	
John Cragg	50	00	.....	
Josiah Crawford	80	00	.....	
Hezekiah Shaw	25	00	.....	
John Henninger	80	00	.....	
Jacob Turman	37	47	.....	
William Young	18	10	12	00
Lewis Anderson	61	00	.....	
William Lambdin	130	00	.....	
Richard Richards	62	10	.....	
John Johnston	41	00	.....	
Eli Truitt, 4½ months	29	00	.....	
Thos. Kirkman	15	00	44	66
William Winans	.....		.....	
John Lewis	22	00	8	00
William B. Elgin	80	00	.....	
Isaac Lindsey	52	50	.....	
James Blair, 5 months	26	00	.....	
James B. Finley	95	09	.....	
Thos. Nelson	.....		32	00
Saml. West	50	00	.....	
Alex. Cummins	90	00	.....	
Saml. Hellums	80	00	.....	
Saml. H. Thompson	67	37	.....	
Henry McDaniel	83	12	.....	
Thos. A. King	44	42	.....	
Saml. S. Griffin	61	19	.....	
Daniel Fraley	.....		15	00
John Strange	62	20	.....	
James McMahan	41	00	.....	
Michael Ellis	130	00	.....	
Joseph Piggott	20	00	10	00
Vivion Daniel	24	00	6	00

	Money Received. D. Cnt.	Money Appropriated. D. Cnt.
Caleb J. Taylor	66 00	.....
Isaac Davey	160 00	.....
Marcus Lindsey	.....	.....
George A. Calvert	23 00	7 00
Nathan Pullum	49 00	.....
John Phipps	48 00	.....
		387 62

Yet in reserve	$ 31 00	John Hennigar	3 00
Public Collection	52 37	Thos. Wright	15 00
Collection Preachers	36 66	Jesse Walker	10 40
John Sale	10 00	Wm. Young	12 75
		Alex. Cummins	6 00
	$130 03	Danl. Fraley	5 00
Necessitous cases	Doll	S. Parker	6 70
Saml. Lewis	15 00	F. Stilwell	5 00
John Johnston	17 00	John Strange	5 00
Marcus Lindsey	6 00	John McFarland	5 00
John Cragg	5 00	E. W. Bowman	5 00
George Calvert	6 00		
Jacob Turman	2 00		78 86
Wm. Mitchell	2 00		53 00
	53 00		$133 86

The Conference resumed the examination of those who remain on trial. Baker Rather, James Dixon, Thomas Wright, Walter Griffith, Thos. A. King, John Phipps, Daniel Fraley, John Strang, James McMahan, Caleb J. Taylor, Isaac Pavey, Marcus Lindsey, & George A. Calvert. All continued on trial.

Sat. 9 Oclock Bishop McKendree President.

The case of James Blair before the Conference & continued by adjournment during Mond. & Tuesday till 12 Oclock at which time the final decision took place.

The Committee who examined his Case Last April before William Burk Presented 14 charges Three of which the 9th. 10th. & 11th for want of proper testimony was not acted on by the Committee.

DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE AGAINST BLAIR.

Charge the 3rd. the Conference confirm the report of the committee.

Charge 4, Guilty of imprudent conduct.

Charge 5th. It is the opinion of the Conference that the conduct of J. Blair as it relates to the above charge was highly imprudent & his observations about Miss .... was highly improper.

Charge 6th. Conference voted his conduct improper.

Charges 13th. Conference voted him guilty.

PALLIATING CONSIDERATIONS.

1. The irregularity of the Process at the beginning—having been in public.

2. Want of Specification. Consequently the charges could not be assertained till Testimony was examined & thus it appeared that some of the charges were supported by a single witness & that witness was the accuser.

3rd. Some Charges originated in Private conversation some from his exercise in congregations in open day—when the work of God was going powerfully among the People.

4. The time when the testimony was taken was at a Crisis when there was considerable agitation & much irritation among the People witnesses & Parties this was plainly manifested.

The Conference after duly & deliberately weighing all those charges & circumstances taken together voted his Suspension from all official services in our Church.-

TUESD. 2 OCLOCK BISHOP MCKENDREE PRESIDENT.

The Conference proceeded to answer the question, Who are admitted on Trial?

Kentucky District.

John Cord from Limestone, John Colleman from Flemming Circuit, Francis Landrin from Fleming Ct. Jonathan Stamper from Lexington Ct. all admitted. Stephen Grimes from Hinkston Ct. rejected. But on motion of James Ward the Conference granted the Presiding Elder liberty to employ him if he should think Proper.

Miami District.

Elias Turner from Scioto Ct. a married man admitted, Jesse Spurgion from Pickaway Ct. a married man admitted, Henry Jefferson from Scioto Ct. rejected, James Holmes from White Water circuit Do. Soda Bacon from Delaware Ct. rejected, P. E. obtained leave to employ him. Robt. W. Finley from West Union circuit a married man admitted.

Green River District.

Joseph Oglesby from Jefferson Ct. a married man admitted, on Motion of Wm. Burk admitted into full connection. Charles Bonwell from Salt River Ct. admitted.

Holston District.

George Akins from French Broad Circuit married & admitted.

Benj. Rotin from French Broad Ct. admitted.

Jesse Cunningham from French Broad, Richard Conn from French Broad Ct. admitted.

Thos. D. Porter from Nolichuckie admitted.

The Conference Proceeded to the examination of the Character of D. Wimberly & John Jennings admitted into full connection & elected to the order of Deacons.

Muskingum District.

William Dixon from Little Kanawha admitted, Charles Waddle from Wills Creek Ct. admitted, William McMahan from Marietta admitted.

Wed. 9 Oclock Bishop McKendree President.

John McMahan from Marietta Ct. admitted.

Illinois District.

Larry Killibrew from Missouri Ct. rejected, on Motion of the P. E. the Conference granted the P. Elder liberty to employ him if he should think proper.

Cumberland District.

Samuel Bellamy from Red River Ct. admitted.

David Goodner from Hartford Ct. admitted.

Shadrach B. Carter from Duck River circuit admitted.

William Hart from Red River circuit admitted, Saml. S. Lewis from Christian Ct.

Joseph Foulks from Livingston Ct. admitted.

The case of Marcus Lindsey who remains on trial was considered who was wanted to fill the Missionary Station on Sandy in consequence of which he was elected to the office of a Deacon.

The case of Thos. Trower was considered who requested a Location the Conference granted it.

Henry Mallory's case was considered who requested a location the Conference granted it.

Saul Hinkle's case was considered who requested a Location. The Conference granted it.

Saul Hinkle's case was considered who requested a Location. The Conference granted it.

John McClure's case was considered, William Burk motioned that John McClure be continued in his relation to this conference as a Superanuated & worn out Preacher put to vote carried.

The Conference proceeded to decide whether they should send their delegates to General Conference by Seignority or by election, put to vote carried in favor of sending them by election.

Wed. 2 Oclock Bishop McKendree President.

Mov'd by William Burk seconded by John Sale that the Case of Edward Tiffins appeal be admitted. Put to vote conference admitted it.

Mov'd by William Burk & Seconded by James Quinn that it be laid over as unfinished business. The Ques-

tion was call'd for & taken without debate. Lost. The main question was taken—carried in the affirmative.

The Conference voted that they elect the Delegates for General Conference by Ballot. The Conference Proceeded to make their election the following persons were duly elected: Samuel Parker, David Young, John Sale, James Quinn, L. Blackman, F. Stier, John Collins, Jas. Ward, B. Lakin, James Axley, Wm. Patterson, Isaac Quinn & Wm. Houston.

THURSD. 9 OCLOCK BISHOP MCKENDREE PRESIDENT.

The Conference examined the Character of the Elders one by one.

The case of Samuel Sellars who owned a negro Slave of 14 years old. he agreed to submit to the advice of a committee one chosen by himself and the other by the Conference—the Committee reported as follows:

We the committee appointed in the case of S. Sellars are of oppinion that the Black boy shall serve him until he be 22 years of age.

WM. BURK,
F. STIER.

THURSDAY 2 OCLOCK BISHOP MCKENDREE PRESIDENT.

Bishop Asbury proceeded to examine the Preachers who had been admitted on trial.

The case of Robt. Cloud—as there were some difficulties the last year in Consequence of which Solomon Langdon & the Preacher of Fairfield Circuit were appointed to make enquiry in Robert Cloud's case & report to this Conference See Page 88.

The case of E. W. Bowman—There were objections stated against him for wearing weapons calculated to inspire terror & for threatening what he would do. The question called for & stated whether the conduct as it respected the above circumstances of E. W. Bowman be disproved of or not put to vote carried in the affirmative that such conduct be disapproved of.

Friday 9 Oclock Bishop McKendree President.

The Conference proceeded to answer the Question, Where shall the next Conference be held? nominated Fountain Head Sumner County Tennessee & Chillicothe, Provided the Western Conference be divided by the General Conference. Voted that the Lower Conference be held at the Fountain Head on the 10th. of Nov. 1812, And that the Upper Conference be held at Chilicothe on the, October 1st. 1812.

Friday 2 Oclock Bishop McKendree President.

The case of Edward Tiffin a local Preacher came before the Conference—who appealed from the Judgement of the Quarterly Meeting Conference of Deer Creek Circuit. Joseph S. Collins from Chilicothe made some statements proving the illegality of the Proceedings in the Process of the trial of Edward Tiffin. The Conference left it with the Episcopacy to decide whether the proceedings were consistant with the Methodist Discipline or not. It was decided by the Episcopacy that the Q Committee was not conformable to the laws of religion that the case of Edward Tiffin ought not to have been submited to the Q Committe therefore its improper for it to come before this Conference.

The case of W. Winans considered. Charges prefered against him, but as he was not present his case was laid over till he can return from the Mississippi District.

James Ward stated he could not with Propriety go to the General Conference. In consequence of which the Conference elect Thos. Stilwell to take his place.

The Conference Decided that if no division be made in the Western Annual Conference that the Preachers all meet at Chilicothe October 1st. 1812.

L. Blackman, Secretary. W. McKendree.

NOTE 12.—The annual tour of the circuits and Conferences brought Bishop Asbury early in September, 1811, into Ohio, bound for the Western Conference to convene in Cincinnati. He finds camp meetings going on in many of the circuits and he preaches frequently in the camps. At Springfield he preaches, but his service is interrupted by a general muster of militia. At Dayton he preaches in the courthouse, where about a thousand hearers assembled. He mentions finding many old acquaintances in Ohio whom he had known in the older States. At Lebanon he helps the people plan for a new church of brick, to be forty by sixty feet. He arrives in Cincinnati on September 27, and on the Sunday following ordains twenty preachers, among them James B. Finley. Great crowds attended the Conference, for he tells us, "We occupied the market-house as well as the chapel." He states, "I had little trouble about the stations—I heard of no complaints. There were one hundred and two preachers: one hundred of whom are stationed: we lack twenty-two." (Asbury's Journal, Vol. III., pages 316-318.)

The appointments for 1811, as given in the General Minutes, were as follows:

HOLSTON DISTRICT. *Frederick Stier, P. Elder.*

Holston, Lewis Anderson, Jesse Cunningham.
Nollichuckie, Samuel Sellers.
French-Broad, George Elkins, Josiah Crawford.
Clinch, Sam'l Thompson, Rich. Conn.
Powell's Valley, Thomas A. King.
Carter's Valley, John Henninger.
Tennessee Valley, William B. Elgin.

CUMBERLAND DISTRICT. *James Guinn, P. Elder.*

Red River and Goose Creek, Isaac Lindsey, John Manley, John A. Lewis.
Roaring River, Thomas Kirkman.
Wayne, John Phipps.
Somerset, Shadrach B. A. Carter.
Green River, James Dixon.
Barren, Richard Richards.

NASHVILLE DISTRICT. *Learner Blackman, P. Elder.*

Dixon, John Cragg.
Duck River, John Crane.
Richland and Flint, Thomas Stilwell, David Goodner.

Elk, Joseph Foulks, Samuel Belamy.
Cany Fork, John Page.
Nashville, Samuel King.

WABASH DISTRICT. *James Axley, P. Elder.*

St. Vincennes, Jacob Turman.
Patoka, Benjamin Edge.
Cash River, Baker Wrather.
Livingston, John Travis.
Christian, Peter Cartwright.
Henderson, William Hart.
Hartford, Francis Travis.

KENTUCKY DISTRICT. *John Sale, P. Elder.*

Sandy River, Marcus Lindsey.
Limestone, Henry McDaniel, Caleb J. Taylor.
Fleming, Samuel Hellums.
Licking, Thomas D. Porter.
Lexington, Chas. Holliday, John Stamper.
Hinkstone, Matthew Nelson, Benjamin Rhoten.

SALT RIVER DISTRICT. *James Ward, P. Elder.*

Danville, Thomas Lasley, John Caliman.
Cumberland, Thomas Hellums.
Madison, Thomas Nelson.
Salt River, Joseph Oglesby.
Shelby, William Pattison.
Jefferson, Charles Bonwell.
Silver Creek, William McMehan.

MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT. *Samuel Dunwody, P. Elder.*

Wilkinson, Sela Paine, Lewis Hobbs.
Natchez, John Johnson, Samuel Lewis.
Claiborne, John W. Kennon.
Amit, William Winans.
Rapids, Fredrick D. Wimberly.
Washataw, Thomas Griffin.
Attakapas, John S. Ford.
Tombeckbee, Wm. Houston, Isaac Quinn.
New Orleans, Miles Harper.

ILLINOIS DISTRICT. *Samuel Parker, P. Elder.*

Illinois, Jesse Walker, George A. Colbert.
Missouri, John Cord.

Maramack, Thomas Wright.
Cold Water, Daniel Fraley.
Cape Girardeau, John McFarland.

MIAMI DISTRICT. *Solomon Langdon, P. Elder.*

Cincinnati, William Burke, John Strange.
Mad River and Xenia, John Collins, Moses Crume.
Scioto, Ralph Lotspeich.
Deer Creek, Robert Cloud, Chas. Waddle.
Lawrenceburg, Walter Griffin.
Pickaway, James McMehan.
White Oak, Benjamin Lakin, Eli Turner.
Salt Creek, Jesse Spurgeon.
White Water, Robert W. Finley.
Delaware, Alexander Cummins.
Bush Creek, Isaac Pavey.

MUSKINGUM DISTRICT. *James Quinn, P. Elder.*

Fairfield, Isaac Quinn, James B. Finley.
Marietta, David Young, Thomas Branch.
Little Kanawha, John Brown.
Guyandott, Samuel West.
Letart Falls, William Nixon.
Knox, Elisha W. Bowman.
Tuscarawas, William Mitchell.

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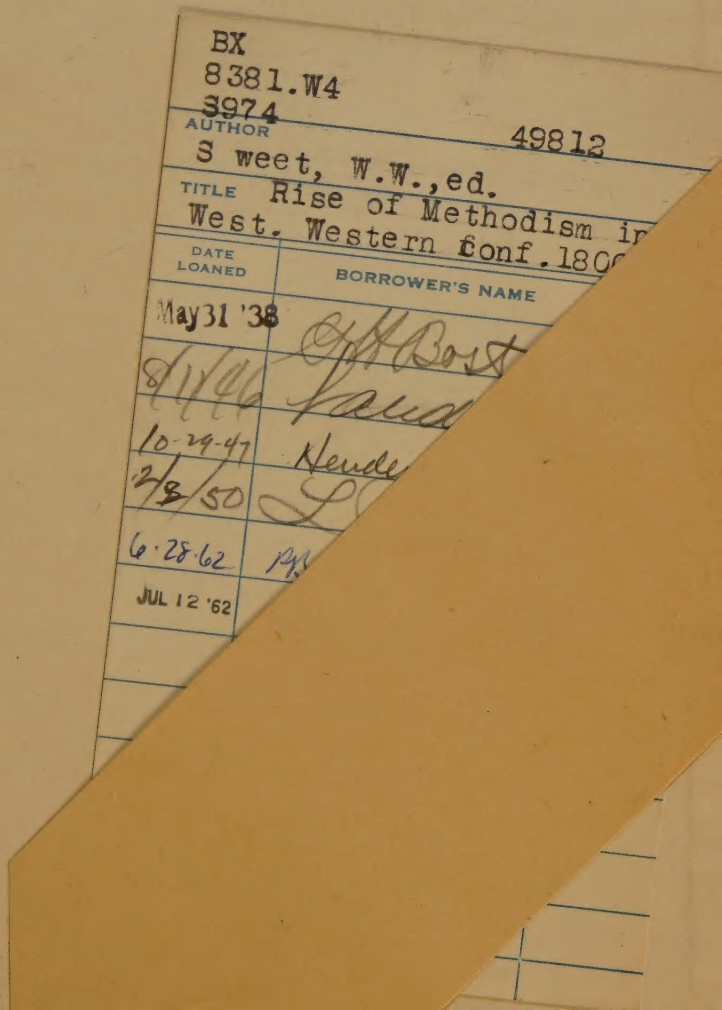
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JUL 12 '62	